

Ford offer of free pay bargaining signals threat to the 5% policy

At the end of the Government's 5 per cent pay rise guideline, the Ford Motor Company has offered a pay rise of 5 per cent, which is the same as the Government's policy. The offer is a signal that the company is prepared to accept the Government's policy, which is a threat to the 5% policy.

At the end of the Government's 5 per cent pay rise guideline, the Ford Motor Company has offered a pay rise of 5 per cent, which is the same as the Government's policy. The offer is a signal that the company is prepared to accept the Government's policy, which is a threat to the 5% policy.

Setback for ministers' talks

Paul Routledge, Editor of the Ford Motor Company, has said that the company is prepared to accept the Government's policy. This is a setback for ministers' talks, as the company's offer is a signal that it is prepared to accept the Government's policy.

OTHER PAY NEWS

Shop stewards at British Leyland's Swindon plant won a court action for loss of pay for workers locked out when the management changed holiday arrangements.

The dispute involving hospital engineers and supervisors may be extended today. The Government has said it cannot meet the men's demands.

The 33 BL toolmakers, whose unofficial pay strike is in its tenth week, are beginning to run out of funds.

A meeting of the Prison Officers' Association has voted for industrial action from November 5 in support of a pay claim.

London traffic wardens have stopped issuing tickets to parking meter offenders in a campaign in support of a pay claim.

domestic and export markets and many other companies whose livelihood depends upon it.

Picking up the argument about income policy and the attitude of the unions, Sir Terence added: "Everybody agrees that management is only effective if it operates by consent, and not through confrontation."

The key passage of his statement, which Ford will add to the pay restraint guidelines, was: "The unions have insisted that they will accept responsibility under the conditions of free collective bargaining and bear the country's economic situation in mind."

"They repeated this when they rejected pay guidelines at the Labour Party conference. We therefore believe that we must now accept those assurances."

ances and seek a return to work so that we can enter into just such negotiations."

Mr. Morley (Moss) Evans, general secretary of the Transport and General Workers' Union, which is at the forefront of the dispute, welcomed the company's move.

"I am optimistic that there can be a basis for bargaining realistically," he said. "We were unfettered, collective bargaining, but that does not mean we are not prepared to bargain responsibly."

The Cabinet subcommittee on the incomes policy met yesterday afternoon and was given a report on the Ford dispute. It was understood to have reinforced the ministerial view that unless the TUC can come up with an acceptable compromise that will effectively curb inflation, the Government has no option but to press ahead with blanket implementation of its White Paper policies.

Ford has kept the Government fully informed at every stage of its response to the unions' demand for wage rises of £20 (about 27 per cent) a week, and the official ministerial line from the Department of Employment yesterday was a simple reaffirmation of the policy.

Sanctions against the private sector are likely to be discussed at 10 Downing Street tonight when TUC leaders meet the Government for talks on the way forward after the Labour Party's rejection of the 5 per cent limit.

The unions would like to see the weapon dropped, but ministers will insist on "something more" in return for a 10 per cent response. If the Cabinet is to give even limited concessions on its income policy, a relaxed version of the White Paper flexibility provisions, and "something" in return for the lower pay to head off a clash with local government and health service workers, remain the strongest runners for compromise.

Pressure from today's Ford negotiations, being held as the unions have insisted in a "free collective bargaining environment," will spill over into other wage talks, starting with a big push at British Oxygen and ending through the Vauxhall manual workers' negotiations well into the winter wage round.

crippled many companies, particularly in shipbuilding and engineering, and 30,000 to 50,000 of the country's workers were laid off.

The first companies to suffer in a strike would be small metal fabricators, many of which would be closed within a fortnight. British Oxygen supplies four fifths of industrial gases. Most of the rest come from Air Products, which would be unable to fill the gap if BOG was closed.

Companies primarily dependent on deliveries from British Oxygen are in the engineering, shipbuilding, textiles, food, drink and the motor industries. Steel and big chemical plants

rely largely on piped gas, which would not be affected. Last year a third of the by-products were in shipbuilding.

Negotiations from the Transport and General Workers' Union and the General and Municipal Workers' Union entered the talks determined to assist an offer close to the Cabinet's 5 per cent limit. The workers are employed in the company's gases division and are the first in the company to negotiate in the new pay round.

Average wages, including overtime and shift payments, are £38 a week.

Business News, page 19



Mr Maxwell Joseph, chairman of Grand Metropolitan, and Mr Eric Morley, at yesterday's board meeting.

Mr Morley leaves Mecca with £200,000 compensation

By Richard Allen

Mr Eric Morley last night gave up his fight to stay on as chairman of Mecca, the betting shops to bingo halls conversion arm of Grand Metropolitan.

He is to receive a £200,000 compensation payment for giving up his £35,000-a-year post at the end of this year and resigning as a director of Grand Metropolitan.

He has also reached an agreement over the future running of the Miss World competition. In a joint statement issued by Mr Morley, Mecca and Grand Metropolitan after 3½ hours of talks it was announced that "all parties have agreed to work together in the best interests of the company and the public."

The statement went on:

"This decision has been reached in the light of recognition by all parties that there have been important differences of opinion in various matters."

It added: "Mr Morley will continue with his usual duties in connection with the Miss World contest to be held under Mecca's auspices next month. Suitable arrangements have been made with Mr and Mrs Morley for the future continuation of those contests."

The statement said that all parties had agreed to make no further comment on Mr Morley's departure. However, Mr Morley is expected to meet managers and staff at his

Southwark offices this morning to explain the decision. Yesterday was the crucial board meeting when the 300 managers and staff of Mecca held a protest meeting at Mecca's regional office in Hammersmith. They decided that if the decision to sack Mr Morley, taken last week by Mr Maxwell Joseph, Grand Metropolitan's chairman, was endorsed they would call on shareholders to intervene.

The Grand Metropolitan board meeting was attended by Mr Joseph and 11 of Mr Morley's co-directors.

Mr Morley has not yet revealed who will succeed him as chairman of Mecca. Although Mr Ernest Sharp, 47-year-old joint managing director of Grand Met, was being widely tipped as the most likely contender, Mr Morley said before the

meeting that the row which led to his dismissal centred on a bonus scheme for Mecca's 1,700 staff, which he had introduced before Grand Met took the group over in a £33m deal eight years ago.

However, a spokesman for Grand Met said later that there had been a misunderstanding over the bonus scheme but the real issue had been a "fundamental incompatibility between Mr Morley and central management."

It is understood that there have been several clashes in recent years, most concerning Mr Morley's flamboyant and fiercely independent management style.

Last year he upset some fellow directors when he sold 70,000 Grand Met shares for £54,000 and declared that his take-home pay of £12,000 was

insufficient. Mr Morley still holds around 90,000 Grand Met shares, worth more than £100,000.

His resignation will end 32 years' association with the Mecca group, which he joined as a "publicity man" after leaving the Army.

Mecca, with its rapid expansion into betting shops, casinos, bingo halls and leisure centres, has become one of Grand Met's most profitable subsidiaries. Last year it contributed £17m out of total group profits of £78m.

House prices rise 21 per cent in year

The Nationwide Building Society published figures yesterday showing that between July and September house prices rose by an average of 9 per cent on top of a 4 per cent rise in the second quarter and 5 per cent in the first. Mr Norman Griggs, secretary general of the Building Societies Association, said the figures were worrisome.

The figures show that on average house prices are 21 per cent higher than a year ago, with the largest increases in outer London, 12 per cent, in the last quarter and 26 per cent in the past year.

The building societies seem to think it unlikely that the Government will relax the mortgage restrictions agreed with them and thereby ease long waits for mortgages.

Mr Griggs said that the societies had expected increases this year of about 15 per cent but it looked as if the figure might reach 25 per cent. The association hoped that the rate of increase would diminish in the fourth quarter.

There was no comparison with the large increases in the early 1970s, he said: "We do not think the market is getting out of hand or running away. It is adjusting to changing conditions after two years when house prices lagged behind."

Terror suspect foils attempt to arrest him

Vienna, Oct. 9.—A suspected terrorist and a woman companion were caught by police in a Vienna flat today but the man, who was carrying a gun, foiled an attempt to arrest him.

Police said the man involved was Christian Klar, one of the three most wanted members of the West German Red Army Faction (RAF) gang believed to have murdered Dr. Hanns-Martin Schleyer, an industrialist, and Her Jurgens Ponto, a banker.

The Christian quarter is still effectively sealed off by the Syrians, although a few cars were being allowed through road blocks near the disused railway today and food is plentiful enough. The streets, however, are still littered with the painful and sometimes grisly remnants of the fighting.

To the past 24 hours, more bodies have been dug out of ruined houses and office blocks while hospital staff in the east of Beirut are complaining that they have yet to receive adequate medical supplies.

One Christian doctor claimed this morning that the Syrians had deliberately aimed shells at medical centres last week.

Meanwhile, to the west of the city, as if designed to demonstrate Lebanon's "ever more" divisive political and social life, Muslim militias, organised yet another general strike, this time to demand that Syrian troops remain in the capital. The left-wing militias who are appearing armed on the streets of west Beirut, in ever-increasing numbers, made it clear that there was nothing voluntary about the strike.

Christian Journal, page 5

Liddle Towers jury told of kick in ribs

At a new inquest on Mr Liddle Towers, a boxing coach, the coroner at Chester-le-Street, Co. Durham, was told by a witness that he saw a policeman kick Mr Towers in the ribs; it was not a hard kick, he said, more in the nature of a nudge. At the time Mr Towers had his hands

in handcuffs above his head. The verdict of "justifiable homicide" returned at the first inquest two years ago was quashed by the Divisional Court and a new inquest ordered. The jury were told that it was no longer open to them to return a verdict of original homicide.

6 die in Ankara political attack

Guns killed six members of the left-wing opposition Turkish Workers' Party and seriously wounded a seventh in an attack on an Ankara flat. Four men died immediately while the bodies of two abducted by the gang were later found dumped. More than 300 people have died in political violence in Turkey this year.

Inflation should remain steady

Inflation should remain steady in the next few months, according to latest wholesale price figures, although next month's wholesale prices are likely to show an increase. Despite the strength of the pound, the monthly increase in raw materials costs rose a 1 per cent in September, due chiefly to a sharp increase in cobalt prices.

Change proposed at Europe court

Lord Elwyn-Jones, the Lord Chancellor, has put forward a British proposal to EEC members for the re-examination of the procedure for referring cases to the European Court of Justice, which has been hard pressed to handle the increasing number of cases coming before it.

Fears over atom waste in desert

Australia is seeking talks with Britain over about 1.7 lb of highly toxic plutonium which was buried in the South Australian desert after British nuclear tests in the 1950s. Australian authorities are reported to fear that the plutonium could be stolen by terrorists.

Page 6

Leader, page 13

Letters: On Pope John Paul, from Dr R. Edgar Hope-Simpson and others; on pay policy, from Prof. J. M. Barrie; on the "sin bio" for offending players, from Davis Cup defeat; a financial blow for Australia.

Business News, pages 16-21

Stock markets: Shares were encouraged by moves on the day from and closed 7.2 ahead at \$102. Gilt, however, were mostly quiet.

Financial Editor: Glaxo's prospects still hold good. Volume comes through at FMC.

Business features: The effect of white emigration on Rhodesia's industry is examined by a special correspondent.

Business Diary: The contest at Mecca.

Jacques Brel dies in Paris

Jacques Brel, one of the most popular entertainers in the French-speaking world, has died in a suburban Paris hospital at the age of 49, after nearly a decade of illness. The Belgian singer-composer recently confirmed, through a close friend that he had cancer.

Lesbian claim is rejected

The Press Council has rejected complaints about reporters of the Evening News, London, who posed as lesbians to gain information about homosexual women having babies by artificial insemination, on the grounds that the matter was of public interest.

Lord Rothermere wins libel case

Lord Rothermere accepted substantial damages and costs in the High Court in settlement of his libel action over an article in the Sunday Times, which accused Beaverbrook Newspapers of a "conspiracy to defame" him.

Tory plea: Mrs. Margaret Thatcher urged Labour moderates to shed old prejudices.

Theatre changes: Changes at the National Theatre will enable it to start provincial tours. Four directors will run the theatre's productions.

Olympics rebuff: The BBC dismissed the idea of spinning a coin with independent television to decide who covers the Olympic Games.

Rome: Cardinals agree that first round of voting for new Pope will take place on Sunday.

Tashkent: New underground railway system built to withstand earthquakes.

Sports, pages 10 and 11

Cricket: Yorkshire to explain why Boycott was dismissed. Rugby: New Zealand want "sin bio" for offending players. Tennis: Davis Cup defeat a financial blow for Australia.

Business News, pages 16-21

Stock markets: Shares were encouraged by moves on the day from and closed 7.2 ahead at \$102. Gilt, however, were mostly quiet.

Financial Editor: Glaxo's prospects still hold good. Volume comes through at FMC.

Business features: The effect of white emigration on Rhodesia's industry is examined by a special correspondent.

Business Diary: The contest at Mecca.

Seal hunters run into Orkney confrontation

From Deo van der Vat

Protesters determined to prevent the impending cull of grey seals on the Orkney Islands confronted for the first time yesterday the Norwegian vessel, the Rainbow Warrior, a converted trawler, owned by the environmentalist conservation group, Greenpeace, caught up with the Norwegian vessel, the Kvitingen, yesterday morning north of Shaplosay Island, a few miles east of Mainland, the principal island of the Orkney archipelago.

Greenpeace last night reported their vessel was anchored by the Norwegian vessel and was "under action stations." The two lay for a time only about 30 metres apart. In a message shown from a rubber dinghy on to the deck of the Norwegian vessel, the Greenpeace party said they had no quarrel with the crew of the Kvitingen or the rifleman aboard.

They said their action was aimed at Mr Bruce Millan, Secretary of State for Scotland, whose department has commissioned the cull on what Greenpeace maintains is insufficient scientific evidence. The group

is campaigning for a year's delay to allow time for further evidence to be produced, perhaps at a public inquiry.

The plan is to shoot 900 adult females and 4,000 pups on the ground that the decimating of the seal population in the Orkney area in Hiale more than 10 years threatens dwindling fish stocks. The strategy is to have the seal population over the next five years.

Greenpeace has mounted a formidable and costly operation against the cull. A network of observers covers all the inhabited islands and some uninhabited for decades. On Sunday, the Rainbow Warrior sent a party of six on North Ronald, a small island in the Orkney archipelago.

Uninhabited since the last century, about a hundred miles west of the Orkneys proper, it has probably by far the largest seal colony in British waters. Mr Carmichael, Mr. M. J. Gilmour, Liberal MP for Orkney and Shetland, said last night that he understood the seal cull had already started, and would continue. After meeting Mr. Millan in Edinburgh, he said the minister had promised to reconsider the matter before further culls (the Press Association reports).

European Parliament, page 4

Everyone can own a Dewar's original



Dewar's the first to bottle the spirit of Scotland

HOME NEWS

Shop stewards win a holiday pay claim from British Leyland

Four shop stewards were successful yesterday in their claim against British Leyland for damages over a lost pay claim. Their action could give about £20 extra on average to 1,700 hourly paid workers at the company's Swindon body press plant.

The shop stewards claimed that they arrived for work during the Christmas holiday week of 1976 but were "locked out" as the management had closed the works. They sued for damages, claiming lost pay for two days and a night shift. British Leyland contested the claim, which affects only the Swindon factory.

Judge Main, at Cirencester County Court, Gloucestershire, ruled for the stewards because of an assurance given to them by Mr Russell Hooper, the Swindon industrial relations manager, that statutory holidays would not be moved without union consent.

The stewards, Mr Eric Smith, Mr Terence Woodhouse, Mr Ashley Tucker and Mr Arthur Jeremiah, had sued on behalf of 1,700 members of the Transport and General Workers' Union branch at the factory. They were awarded costs.

The action arose after the

company's decision to shut the factory during the 1976 Christmas week when Christmas Day and New Year's Day fell on Saturdays. Two statutory days were transferred to "in fill" the holiday week and that move was opposed by the branch. The action was recently heard at Swindon County Court.

Judge Main, giving judgment yesterday, said he had considered collective agreements between the union and the company. He referred to a proposal in 1974 by British Leyland that they reach an agreement with the unions nationally on holiday arrangements for future years.

Mr Hooper maintained that a national meeting of British Leyland management and national union officers represented a firm agreement that there should be a week's closure at Christmas, 1976, with local discussions to follow on the days to be moved.

Judge Main said: "I do not think it was agreed at national level that individual plants were bound to accept this week's holiday at Christmas. In my judgment Mr Hooper now regrets giving the assurance he gave."

He thought he had not given it.

Dispute may affect hospital meal services

By John Roper

Health Services Correspondent

The action of 3,500 hospital engineers and supervisors in their pay dispute, which has disrupted laundry and sterilizing services, may be extended today to catering equipment, lifts and vehicles.

"If that happens, it will not be long before patients' meals and restaurant services for staff will be affected. Lifts could become unserviceable, making it difficult to move patients to operating theatres, and hospital transport would suffer."

Mr Allan Black, secretary of the staff side of the Whitley Council, concerned, said yesterday that he understood there had been a meeting between the management and the union side during the Labour Party conference at Blackpool last week.

Full-time officials of the five unions concerned would meet today. "We shall be looking at the effectiveness of our action so far and possibly at making it more effective," Mr Black added.

The Department of Health and Social Security said last night that Mr David Ennals, Secretary of State for Social Services, had written to the union side expressing the Government's willingness to approve a settlement on the terms of the present offer and hoping that normal working would be resumed.

Patients affected: Half the 350 patients at a Norwich psychiatric hospital have not had a hot meal for three weeks or a change of bed linen because of the dispute, a union official said yesterday (our Norwich Correspondent writes).

The Department of Health and Social Security said last night that Mr David Ennals, Secretary of State for Social Services, had written to the union side expressing the Government's willingness to approve a settlement on the terms of the present offer and hoping that normal working would be resumed.

Patients affected: Half the 350 patients at a Norwich psychiatric hospital have not had a hot meal for three weeks or a change of bed linen because of the dispute, a union official said yesterday (our Norwich Correspondent writes).

The Department of Health and Social Security said last night that Mr David Ennals, Secretary of State for Social Services, had written to the union side expressing the Government's willingness to approve a settlement on the terms of the present offer and hoping that normal working would be resumed.

Patients affected: Half the 350 patients at a Norwich psychiatric hospital have not had a hot meal for three weeks or a change of bed linen because of the dispute, a union official said yesterday (our Norwich Correspondent writes).

The Department of Health and Social Security said last night that Mr David Ennals, Secretary of State for Social Services, had written to the union side expressing the Government's willingness to approve a settlement on the terms of the present offer and hoping that normal working would be resumed.

Patients affected: Half the 350 patients at a Norwich psychiatric hospital have not had a hot meal for three weeks or a change of bed linen because of the dispute, a union official said yesterday (our Norwich Correspondent writes).

The Department of Health and Social Security said last night that Mr David Ennals, Secretary of State for Social Services, had written to the union side expressing the Government's willingness to approve a settlement on the terms of the present offer and hoping that normal working would be resumed.

Patients affected: Half the 350 patients at a Norwich psychiatric hospital have not had a hot meal for three weeks or a change of bed linen because of the dispute, a union official said yesterday (our Norwich Correspondent writes).

The Department of Health and Social Security said last night that Mr David Ennals, Secretary of State for Social Services, had written to the union side expressing the Government's willingness to approve a settlement on the terms of the present offer and hoping that normal working would be resumed.

Patients affected: Half the 350 patients at a Norwich psychiatric hospital have not had a hot meal for three weeks or a change of bed linen because of the dispute, a union official said yesterday (our Norwich Correspondent writes).

The Department of Health and Social Security said last night that Mr David Ennals, Secretary of State for Social Services, had written to the union side expressing the Government's willingness to approve a settlement on the terms of the present offer and hoping that normal working would be resumed.

Patients affected: Half the 350 patients at a Norwich psychiatric hospital have not had a hot meal for three weeks or a change of bed linen because of the dispute, a union official said yesterday (our Norwich Correspondent writes).

The Department of Health and Social Security said last night that Mr David Ennals, Secretary of State for Social Services, had written to the union side expressing the Government's willingness to approve a settlement on the terms of the present offer and hoping that normal working would be resumed.

Patients affected: Half the 350 patients at a Norwich psychiatric hospital have not had a hot meal for three weeks or a change of bed linen because of the dispute, a union official said yesterday (our Norwich Correspondent writes).

The Department of Health and Social Security said last night that Mr David Ennals, Secretary of State for Social Services, had written to the union side expressing the Government's willingness to approve a settlement on the terms of the present offer and hoping that normal working would be resumed.

Patients affected: Half the 350 patients at a Norwich psychiatric hospital have not had a hot meal for three weeks or a change of bed linen because of the dispute, a union official said yesterday (our Norwich Correspondent writes).

The Department of Health and Social Security said last night that Mr David Ennals, Secretary of State for Social Services, had written to the union side expressing the Government's willingness to approve a settlement on the terms of the present offer and hoping that normal working would be resumed.

Patients affected: Half the 350 patients at a Norwich psychiatric hospital have not had a hot meal for three weeks or a change of bed linen because of the dispute, a union official said yesterday (our Norwich Correspondent writes).

The Department of Health and Social Security said last night that Mr David Ennals, Secretary of State for Social Services, had written to the union side expressing the Government's willingness to approve a settlement on the terms of the present offer and hoping that normal working would be resumed.



Sir Peter Hall, director of the National Theatre (seated, centre), with the directors of the four companies he is forming (from left to right): Bill Bryden, Christopher Morahan, Michael Rudman and William Gaskill.

New National Theatre companies

By Martin Huckerby

The National Theatre will be split next year into four companies, each working under a director responsible for selecting both actors and plays.

William Gaskill, artistic director of the Royal Court Theatre from 1965 to 1972, will join the National Theatre as director of one of two companies that will share the building's largest auditorium, the Olivier Theatre.

The other will be run by Christopher Morahan, who is in charge of the Lyttelton Theatre. He will be succeeded by Michael Rudman, who will come from the Hampstead Theatre, where he has been artistic director since 1973.

Bill Bryden will remain director of the small experimental auditorium, the Cottesloe Theatre.

The sharing of the Olivier Theatre by two groups will enable productions from there to tour the higher regional theatres for up to 16 weeks a year. But Sir Peter said that would require extra funds from the Arts Council.

He said that on assessing the running of the National Theatre after two years, and a half in the new building, it was felt that a company of 110 actors was too large to run as a single entity. The four directors can be expected to direct two or three plays each during a season.

He thought the National Theatre would continue to back new writing "to the hilt" and to take risks with relatively untried classics, but he hoped that in future it could tackle more foreign classics.

The system of separate companies will not be fully effective until next summer. Once it is under way Sir Peter hopes to embark on a personal project: to begin with a small group, research and develop into classical techniques, an idea reminiscent of Peter Brook's work at the Theatres des Bouffes du Nord, in Paris.

Relieving pressure in the new building, Sir Peter said that the acoustics in the Olivier Theatre were now much better, but the mechanical difficulties on the two main stages remained unresolved.

He thought the National Theatre would continue to back new writing "to the hilt" and to take risks with relatively untried classics, but he hoped that in future it could tackle more foreign classics.

The system of separate companies will not be fully effective until next summer. Once it is under way Sir Peter hopes to embark on a personal project: to begin with a small group, research and develop into classical techniques, an idea reminiscent of Peter Brook's work at the Theatres des Bouffes du Nord, in Paris.

Relieving pressure in the new building, Sir Peter said that the acoustics in the Olivier Theatre were now much better, but the mechanical difficulties on the two main stages remained unresolved.

He thought the National Theatre would continue to back new writing "to the hilt" and to take risks with relatively untried classics, but he hoped that in future it could tackle more foreign classics.

The system of separate companies will not be fully effective until next summer. Once it is under way Sir Peter hopes to embark on a personal project: to begin with a small group, research and develop into classical techniques, an idea reminiscent of Peter Brook's work at the Theatres des Bouffes du Nord, in Paris.

Relieving pressure in the new building, Sir Peter said that the acoustics in the Olivier Theatre were now much better, but the mechanical difficulties on the two main stages remained unresolved.

He thought the National Theatre would continue to back new writing "to the hilt" and to take risks with relatively untried classics, but he hoped that in future it could tackle more foreign classics.

The system of separate companies will not be fully effective until next summer. Once it is under way Sir Peter hopes to embark on a personal project: to begin with a small group, research and develop into classical techniques, an idea reminiscent of Peter Brook's work at the Theatres des Bouffes du Nord, in Paris.

Relieving pressure in the new building, Sir Peter said that the acoustics in the Olivier Theatre were now much better, but the mechanical difficulties on the two main stages remained unresolved.

He thought the National Theatre would continue to back new writing "to the hilt" and to take risks with relatively untried classics, but he hoped that in future it could tackle more foreign classics.

The system of separate companies will not be fully effective until next summer. Once it is under way Sir Peter hopes to embark on a personal project: to begin with a small group, research and develop into classical techniques, an idea reminiscent of Peter Brook's work at the Theatres des Bouffes du Nord, in Paris.

Relieving pressure in the new building, Sir Peter said that the acoustics in the Olivier Theatre were now much better, but the mechanical difficulties on the two main stages remained unresolved.

He thought the National Theatre would continue to back new writing "to the hilt" and to take risks with relatively untried classics, but he hoped that in future it could tackle more foreign classics.

Mrs Thatcher asks Labour moderates to join Tories

From Michael Hattersfield

Political Reporter

Brighton

Mrs Margaret Thatcher, leader of the Conservative Party, robbed her chance of fighting an immediate general election, told Tory agents last night to go out and capture the votes of disillusioned Labour supporters.

She said at the agents' dinner on the eve of the party conference in Brighton: "Many traditional Labour supporters want the same things as we want, believe the same things as we do, but are held back by old Labour loyalties and by old prejudices."

The big question overhanging the conference this week is where the party stands on pay and trade unions. Not all share the official view of free collective bargaining in a market-force economy. One of them is Mr Edward Heath, the former party leader, who intends to give us the status of a certain not the money we deserve."

Mr John Gunning, chairman of Ashford remand centre, which holds young people, said that for five successive Saturdays there had not been enough staff to man visits there. Since 1970 prison officers at Ashford had been protesting for better conditions at the centre and had often refused to accept new inmates.

He hoped other branches would also refuse them to show what difficulty the prison service was in. "We see this as a national malaise," he said.

But protest: Officers at High Point Prison, Stroud, Gloucestershire, began a work-to-rule yesterday because of lack of progress at getting a hut built at the prison security gate.

Leading article, page 13

Further clashes feared in Ulster march

Further clashes between Ulster "loyalists" and the Royal Ulster Constabulary are feared after a week of Sunday's rioting in Londonderry, where 67 policemen were injured when Protestants tried to break up an illegal republican parade.

The incidents have increased tension to a pitch not experienced this year. The Rev Ian Paisley's Democratic Unionist Party (DUP) is to march into the Roman Catholic part of Londonderry next Saturday.

An application for permission to stage the march is to be made to the RUC. But prominent members of the DUP have said they will defy any ban.

The police have ordered Protestants to alter the route of a march to demonstrate against a housing estate planned on the southern outskirts.

Further clashes between Ulster "loyalists" and the Royal Ulster Constabulary are feared after a week of Sunday's rioting in Londonderry, where 67 policemen were injured when Protestants tried to break up an illegal republican parade.

The incidents have increased tension to a pitch not experienced this year. The Rev Ian Paisley's Democratic Unionist Party (DUP) is to march into the Roman Catholic part of Londonderry next Saturday.

An application for permission to stage the march is to be made to the RUC. But prominent members of the DUP have said they will defy any ban.

The police have ordered Protestants to alter the route of a march to demonstrate against a housing estate planned on the southern outskirts.

Further clashes between Ulster "loyalists" and the Royal Ulster Constabulary are feared after a week of Sunday's rioting in Londonderry, where 67 policemen were injured when Protestants tried to break up an illegal republican parade.

The incidents have increased tension to a pitch not experienced this year. The Rev Ian Paisley's Democratic Unionist Party (DUP) is to march into the Roman Catholic part of Londonderry next Saturday.

An application for permission to stage the march is to be made to the RUC. But prominent members of the DUP have said they will defy any ban.

The police have ordered Protestants to alter the route of a march to demonstrate against a housing estate planned on the southern outskirts.

Mr Liddle Towers 'kicked in the chest'

From Ronald Kershaw

Bishop Auckland

A new inquest on Mr Liddle Towers, an electrician and boxing coach, of Chester-le-Street, co Durham, opened at Bishop Auckland, co Durham, yesterday almost two years since a verdict of "justifiable homicide" was returned and four months after that was quashed in the Queen's Bench, Divisional Court and a new inquest ordered.

Mr Towers aged 39, died in hospital on February 9, 1976, after an incident at the Key Club, Birley, co Durham, early on January 16 and after his arrest.

Mr Harold Hewitt, the coroner, reminded the jury that since the previous inquest and since January 1 last it was no longer open to a jury to return a verdict of criminal homicide, which was murder or manslaughter. No individual person, he said, was there to stand trial.

"This inquest is purely a fact-finding inquiry," he added. "There were there to do nothing more than ascertain the facts leading to Mr Towers' death."

Mr Patrick McCurry, a boxing coach and a friend of Mr Towers, said he and Mr Towers and his friend, Mrs Joyce Jacques, of Chester-le-Street, went to the Key Club just before it opened at 11 pm. Mr Towers had been drinking. They left the club about 12.30 am.

They were unable to unlock their car door and Mr Towers walked slowly towards two policemen. There was some talk, but he did not hear what was said. He heard one policeman say: "You have had it. Now you are under arrest."

Mr McCurry said: "I said 'Give him a chance' and one policeman said: 'He has had all the chances he is going to get.'"

He said the two policemen grabbed Mr Towers, one each side, and a third policeman who joined them said: "Keep him there."

While they were holding him the third policeman started punching Mr Towers in the chest. He fell to the ground; the policemen picked him up and dragged him.

Mr McCurry said there was a lot of scuffling in the car park and he heard Mr Towers shout: "No, no, not that." Six policemen were taking Mr Towers out of the car park when he fell to the ground.

He heard one policeman say: "Get hold of him, John," and another policeman replied: "He has got me by the balls."

Mr McCurry said he told the police there was no call to kick Mr Towers.

Mrs Jacques said Mr Towers had caused no trouble in the club and was not noticeably affected by drink. She heard Mr Towers say to the policemen: "You will not get me tonight. I am not driving."

She said Mr Towers and the policemen were "bantering and talking". She added: "I would say they were more or less having a bit of fun at first."

Homeless single people are still ignored or shunned by the public and the Government, the National Cyrenians' annual report says.

Although perhaps a third of that group could qualify for housing, there were signs that some local authorities are ignoring or evading the Housing (Homeless Persons) Act, which was considerably weakened on its passage through Parliament.

He said the miners could make life difficult for themselves and their families, and if it went to the extreme, prices would have to go up.

He rejected the idea of an incomes policy. Such policies had made Britain the poorest country in western Europe, with the lowest output a man, the lowest pay and the lowest level of social services, he said.

He rejected the idea of an incomes policy. Such policies had made Britain the poorest country in western Europe, with the lowest output a man, the lowest pay and the lowest level of social services, he said.

He rejected the idea of an incomes policy. Such policies had made Britain the poorest country in western Europe, with the lowest output a man, the lowest pay and the lowest level of social services, he said.

He rejected the idea of an incomes policy. Such policies had made Britain the poorest country in western Europe, with the lowest output a man, the lowest pay and the lowest level of social services, he said.

He rejected the idea of an incomes policy. Such policies had made Britain the poorest country in western Europe, with the lowest output a man, the lowest pay and the lowest level of social services, he said.

He rejected the idea of an incomes policy. Such policies had made Britain the poorest country in western Europe, with the lowest output a man, the lowest pay and the lowest level of social services, he said.

He rejected the idea of an incomes policy. Such policies had made Britain the poorest country in western Europe, with the lowest output a man, the lowest pay and the lowest level of social services, he said.

He rejected the idea of an incomes policy. Such policies had made Britain the poorest country in western Europe, with the lowest output a man, the lowest pay and the lowest level of social services, he said.

He rejected the idea of an incomes policy. Such policies had made Britain the poorest country in western Europe, with the lowest output a man, the lowest pay and the lowest level of social services, he said.

He rejected the idea of an incomes policy. Such policies had made Britain the poorest country in western Europe, with the lowest output a man, the lowest pay and the lowest level of social services, he said.

He rejected the idea of an incomes policy. Such policies had made Britain the poorest country in western Europe, with the lowest output a man, the lowest pay and the lowest level of social services, he said.

Mr Liddle Towers 'kicked in the chest'

From Ronald Kershaw

Bishop Auckland

A new inquest on Mr Liddle Towers, an electrician and boxing coach, of Chester-le-Street, co Durham, opened at Bishop Auckland, co Durham, yesterday almost two years since a verdict of "justifiable homicide" was returned and four months after that was quashed in the Queen's Bench, Divisional Court and a new inquest ordered.

Mr Towers aged 39, died in hospital on February 9, 1976, after an incident at the Key Club, Birley, co Durham, early on January 16 and after his arrest.

Mr Harold Hewitt, the coroner, reminded the jury that since the previous inquest and since January 1 last it was no longer open to a jury to return a verdict of criminal homicide, which was murder or manslaughter. No individual person, he said, was there to stand trial.

"This inquest is purely a fact-finding inquiry," he added. "There were there to do nothing more than ascertain the facts leading to Mr Towers' death."

Mr Patrick McCurry, a boxing coach and a friend of Mr Towers, said he and Mr Towers and his friend, Mrs Joyce Jacques, of Chester-le-Street, went to the Key Club just before it opened at 11 pm. Mr Towers had been drinking. They left the club about 12.30 am.

They were unable to unlock their car door and Mr Towers walked slowly towards two policemen. There was some talk, but he did not hear what was said. He heard one policeman say: "You have had it. Now you are under arrest."

Mr McCurry said: "I said 'Give him a chance' and one policeman said: 'He has had all the chances he is going to get.'"

He said the two policemen grabbed Mr Towers, one each side, and a third policeman who joined them said: "Keep him there."

While they were holding him the third policeman started punching Mr Towers in the chest. He fell to the ground; the policemen picked him up and dragged him.

Mr McCurry said there was a lot of scuffling in the car park and he heard Mr Towers shout: "No, no, not that." Six policemen were taking Mr Towers out of the car park when he fell to the ground.

He heard one policeman say: "Get hold of him, John," and another policeman replied: "He has got me by the balls."

Mr McCurry said he told the police there was no call to kick Mr Towers.

Mrs Jacques said Mr Towers had caused no trouble in the club and was not noticeably affected by drink. She heard Mr Towers say to the policemen: "You will not get me tonight. I am not driving."

She said Mr Towers and the policemen were "bantering and talking". She added: "I would say they were more or less having a bit of fun at first."

Homeless single people are still ignored or shunned by the public and the Government, the National Cyrenians' annual report says.

Although perhaps a third of that group could qualify for housing, there were signs that some local authorities are ignoring or evading the Housing (Homeless Persons) Act, which was considerably weakened on its passage through Parliament.

He said the miners could make life difficult for themselves and their families, and if it went to the extreme, prices would have to go up.

He rejected the idea of an incomes policy. Such policies had made Britain the poorest country in western Europe, with the lowest output a man, the lowest pay and the lowest level of social services, he said.

He rejected the idea of an incomes policy. Such policies had made Britain the poorest country in western Europe, with the lowest output a man, the lowest pay and the lowest level of social services, he said.

He rejected the idea of an incomes policy. Such policies had made Britain the poorest country in western Europe, with the lowest output a man, the lowest pay and the lowest level of social services, he said.

He rejected the idea of an incomes policy. Such policies had made Britain the poorest country in western Europe, with the lowest output a man, the lowest pay and the lowest level of social services, he said.

He rejected the idea of an incomes policy. Such policies had made Britain the poorest country in western Europe, with the lowest output a man, the lowest pay and the lowest level of social services, he said.

He rejected the idea of an incomes policy. Such policies had made Britain the poorest country in western Europe, with the lowest output a man, the lowest pay and the lowest level of social services, he said.

He rejected the idea of an incomes policy. Such policies had made Britain the poorest country in western Europe, with the lowest output a man, the lowest pay and the lowest level of social services, he said.

He rejected the idea of an incomes policy. Such policies had made Britain the poorest country in western Europe, with the lowest output a man, the lowest pay and the lowest level of social services, he said.

He rejected the idea of an incomes policy. Such policies had made Britain the poorest country in western Europe, with the lowest output a man, the lowest pay and the lowest level of social services, he said.

He rejected the idea of an incomes policy. Such policies had made Britain the poorest country in western Europe, with the lowest output a man, the lowest pay and the lowest level of social services, he said.

He rejected the idea of an incomes policy. Such policies had made Britain the poorest country in western Europe, with the lowest output a man, the lowest pay and the lowest level of social services, he said.

Mr Liddle Towers 'kicked in the chest'

From Ronald Kershaw

Bishop Auckland

A new inquest on Mr Liddle Towers, an electrician and boxing coach, of Chester-le-Street, co Durham, opened at Bishop Auckland, co Durham, yesterday almost two years since a verdict of "justifiable homicide" was returned and four months after that was quashed in the Queen's Bench, Divisional Court and a new inquest ordered.

Mr Towers aged 39, died in hospital on February 9, 1976, after an incident at the Key Club, Birley, co Durham, early on January 16 and after his arrest.

Mr Harold Hewitt, the coroner, reminded the jury that since the previous inquest and since January 1 last it was no longer open to a jury to return a verdict of criminal homicide, which was murder or manslaughter. No individual person, he said, was there to stand trial.

"This inquest is purely a fact-finding inquiry," he added. "There were there to do nothing more than ascertain the facts leading to Mr Towers' death."

Mr Patrick McCurry, a boxing coach and a friend of Mr Towers, said he and Mr Towers and his friend, Mrs Joyce Jacques, of Chester-le-Street, went to the Key Club just before it opened at 11 pm. Mr Towers had been drinking. They left the club about 12.30 am.

They were unable to unlock their car door and Mr Towers walked slowly towards two policemen. There was some talk, but he did not hear what was said. He heard one policeman say: "You have had it. Now you are under arrest."

Mr McCurry said: "I said 'Give him a chance' and one policeman said: 'He has had all the chances he is going to get.'"

He said the two policemen grabbed Mr Towers, one each side, and a third policeman who joined them said: "Keep him there."

While they were holding him the third policeman started punching Mr Towers in the chest. He fell to the ground; the policemen picked him up and dragged him.

Mr McCurry said there was a lot of scuffling in the car park and he heard Mr Towers shout: "No, no, not that." Six policemen were taking Mr Towers out of the car park when he fell to the ground.

He heard one policeman say: "Get hold of him, John," and another policeman

HOME NEWS

Whitehall brief: Carrying stamp of a permanent secretary

Shining star who opted for a job in the City

By Peter Heunessy

Pacing the corridors of Whitehall, one occasionally comes across a young civil servant with the star marking of a future permanent secretary metaphorically emblazoned in invisible ink across his forehead.

It is not just the possession of a brain like a nutcracker, the universities turn out quite a few of those. The trademark includes a good temperament and a linguistic judiciousness very necessary for pouring out palatable advice into the ears of difficult ministers. Such a man was Mr Brian Hudson, late of the Treasury.

Mr Hudson at the age of 33 left the Civil Service last month for a career in the City with the Nordic Bank, half-way through the deliberations of the Committee to Review the Functioning of Financial Institutions (appointed by Mr Callaghan under the chairmanship of Sir Harold Wilson) of which he was secretary. Since arriving at Great George Street from Cambridge, where he read mathematics and literature, in 1966, Mr Hudson's elevation has been so smooth and rapid as to look almost predictable.

He has served as private secretary to the Head of the Treasury and played a part in developing Mr Heath's incomes policy in 1972. The previous year he had been intimately involved with the production of the 1971 scheme for Civil Service superannuation, which has since acquired a permanent place in public demography as the begetter of the inflation-proofed pension.

Mr Hudson looks back on that tenure, when he was on loan to the Civil Service Department, as the most demanding of his 12 years in Whitehall. Hard-boiled trade unionists involved in the negotiations remember him vividly as the brilliant youthful principal who took away a mass of complicated gobbledegook one weekend and came back with a beautifully-drafted scheme. It took a bit more than a weekend, he recalls, but he did it at home.

There is no spectacular dispute with Sir Harold to explain his departure from the inside world of government. Relationships were good there and with Treasury colleagues. He has always hankered after the City, where his brother is a banker, and would not have taken a job with the Civil Service if he had not been offered the Treasury.

At lunch with Mr John Slater, managing director of the Nordic Bank in June, the right offer was made and he undertook the change while he could.

Mr Hudson likes the Treasury and describes the department as "an excellent employer". He has not ruled out a return one day. What makes him unusually interesting is that, unlike others of his generation whom he has left behind, he can go on the record about changes that need to be made in the way our central government goes about its business, speaking with the authority of a former minister.

Mr Hudson's policy coordinating committee, the weekly meeting of top Treasury men of a man who has been close to the centre of events.

In his quiet, crisp manner, he lays out the symptoms, diagnosis and cure with appropriate economy of language: "I have never subscribed to the view that the British Civil Service is the best in the world. It needs to be smaller. It is much too big because the method of work is very time-consuming. A great many things are taken to do things that could be better done quicker with fewer people. A lot of man-hours are spent by committees worrying about things for ministers. Hours are wasted over minutes in drafts that are just going to be glanced at."

The Civil Service is a victim of its own quality. If you have a lot of highly intelligent people they can spend a lot of time worrying about things that are not really important. The simple issues at stake. Things should be done simply with fewer people and committees, and smaller departments.

He describes the 1976 winter of negotiation for an international Monetary Fund loan as a bad time, but reckons, those legendary Treasury men have learnt to live with adversity: "Criticism has hurt Treasury morale. But bad developments on the economic front do not generally do so because they are the bread and butter of Treasury work. They keep you busy. The struggle can be quite fun really. They say it is terrible having to work over the weekend, but you can see the gleam in their eyes."



Mr Brian Hudson: Smooth and rapid progress.

He is a firm believer in open government: "The Treasury ultimately has itself to blame for its reputation because of its tradition of secrecy. At the moment we have the worst of all worlds because anything that is genuinely sensitive is hidden. The professional leaders only react to something which is 'Secret' on the top of it. I think openness is in the Treasury's interest. If the Treasury's policies are right, people are more likely to be persuaded if they see the information that went into them. Economic policy is crucial to the openness argument. The outside world is quite capable of understanding the limitations of the forecasts."

In particular, he believes the medium-term economic forecasts should be published, as they would enable people to perceive the full consequences of policy changes.

What a pity he left. Even if a future Cabinet has not been forced to concede a freedom of information Act by then, life could have been very different about 1978 when Sir Brian Hudson, KCB, moved into that pleasant suite in Treasury Chambers reserved for the permanent secretary.

MP aims for elected regional tier

From Christopher Warman, Local Government Correspondent, Bournemouth

The setting up of an elected regional tier of government to counter increasing centralisation was suggested yesterday by Mr Michael English, Labour MP for Nottingham, West, and chairman of the general sub-committee of the Commons expenditure committee.

The regional councils would at first have no substantial powers but gradually would take over those of the Government's regional offices, quasi-autonomous bodies and perhaps some of the central government's powers over local government, he suggested.

Addressing the annual conference of the Rating and Valuation Association in Bournemouth, he said it was probably too late to restore autonomy directly to counties and districts, because the Government could not cope with hundreds of authorities. The Government could, however, deal with small numbers of local authorities, but had been reluctant to set them up in case they became too powerful. The solution to that, he said, was to "hasten" slowly.

A non-executive tier was a less forbidding prospect and much cheaper, he said. The new authorities would be able to speak responsibly for their regions, to argue directly with central government and between them to present a collective view on behalf of local government.

Mr John Chapman in his presidential address questioned whether the time was ripe for a further realignment of functions, although he favoured changes giving greater responsibility and freedom of action at district council level.

\$4,000 fine over Bodleian thefts

Bruno Pagano, aged 36, a lecturer at Milan University, was fined \$4,000 yesterday for stealing books valued at \$24,000 from the Bodleian Library. He was also given a 12-month suspended prison sentence, but was released on bail until the fine is paid.

Books recovered from his home in Como, Italy, were valued at \$24,450, it was stated. All were returned in the same condition except for one, which Mr Pagano had responded to a better condition.

Sell car to pay fine, judge says

Judge Michael Chavasse at Southwark Crown Court yesterday dismissed the appeal of William Bruce-Lab, aged 45, of Derwent Avenue, Edmonton, London, a former civil servant with the Ghana High Commission, who now receives a £2,400 student grant while he studies social science.

He told Mr Bruce-Lab, who was appealing against a £50 fine and conviction by Tottenham magistrates for falsely claiming supplementary benefit, that he should sell his 1976 silver Mercedes car to pay the fine.

Reminder of housing bodies' duties

A campaign to remind housing associations of their legal, financial and social responsibilities was announced yesterday by the Housing Corporation.

The announcement comes soon after last week's report by the Commons Public Expenditure Committee, which questioned the corporation's efficacy as a watchdog against mismanagement and the misuse of funds. That, however, may be coincidence, since the leaflets to be sent to committee members of all 2,642 registered associations were presumably prepared and printed some weeks ago.



Mr Roderick Llewellyn celebrating the launching of his first record album and his thirty-second birthday at a London club last night.

Scottish poll a test for all parties

From Our Own Correspondent, Tranent

Berwick and West Lothian covers 600 square miles of marginal political territory sprawling in an odd mixture of farming and mining communities between Edinburgh and the borders. The bye-election on October 26 will be an invaluable litmus test for all the parties.

Campaigning began yesterday to find a successor to Professor John Mackintosh, who held the seat for Labour from 1966 to February 1974, lost it for eight months to the Tories, then won it back with a less marginal 2,740 majority.

Professor Mackintosh, whose death caused the bye-election, had a strong following and was an ardent devotee of devolution, particularly for establishing a Scottish assembly. His pro-devolution arguments probably woo him considerable support that might have gone to the Scottish National Party, which has fared so poorly in the past that the contest is seen as a two-horse race between Labour and Tory.

The Labour prospect is Mr John Home Robertson, aged 29,

a Berwickshire farmer and independent local councillor, who has been admitted to the SNP's leading figures over the head of the local prospective candidate, Mrs Isabel Lindsay, vice-chairman for policy and co-ordinator of the party's national assembly, will be attempting to lift the party's support well beyond the 13 per cent of the vote it won at the last election.

She opened her campaign yesterday by asking whether the people of Berwick and East Lothian "have the imagination and guts to grasp the opportunities presented to their country or whether they are content to remain a part of the bright new oil-fuelled future slip carelessly through their fingers."

The anti-nuclear line will also be followed by the Liberal prospect, Mr Tam Glen, aged 49, a solicitor from Haddington, who fought Ross and Cromarty in October 1974, lost to Labour 48 per cent, the Tories 27, SNP 19 and Liberals 4 per cent.

Mr Robertson accused his Tory opponent, Miss Margaret Marshall, of ambiguity about the assembly and refusing to stand up to the anti-devolution stance of her party's leadership.

Miss Marshall said she believed the only practical solution was a federal system treating England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland on the same basis. Any other system would create first and second-class countries within Britain.

Rules on dangerous loads ready for Parliament

Comprehensive regulations covering the transport of dangerous chemicals are to be submitted to the Government by the Health and Safety Commission within the next few weeks.

The regulations, intended to replace and amplify the present piecemeal legislation, will take account of such matters as vehicle maintenance, driver training, the marking of lorries and containers, and parking on public highways.

Mr William Simpson, the commission chairman, said yesterday that he expected them to be laid before Parliament in the spring.

But commission officials made clear yesterday that international agreement is yet to be reached. Even the new

diamond marking on road tankers carrying toxic, corrosive or inflammable substances, which will shortly become compulsory, will not apply to foreign registered vehicles.

Mr Simpson, who was launching an information film to publicize the new marking system, described the international situation as "unsatisfactory". Even within Britain there was considerable dissonance on the definition of dangerous chemicals, the responsibilities of tanker operators and methods of enforcement.

The main theme of the film is that people should stay well clear of any damaged vehicle bearing the diamond marking.

Managing P. emphasizes the importance of proper accounting and financial control procedures and reminds associations that they have obligations to the local community and the public at large. The other, in the Public Eye, urges them to do all they can to demonstrate their accountability.

Protection appeal for homeworkers

The Government has been urged to introduce legislation to break the "cycle of exploitation" affecting Britain's homeworkers.

The National Conference of Homeworkers' Action Groups has written to Mr John Garm, Under-Secretary of State for Employment, demanding that the Queen's Speech should contain a promise of measures to bring the 250,000 people, mainly women, who work for industry in their homes under the employment protection laws.

£140,000 art sale for animals

David Shepherd, the artist famous for his pictures of elephants, sold all 68 paintings in his one-man show for about £140,000 yesterday when a half an hour of the gallery's opening in London. The proceeds will go to the World Wildlife Fund.

Buyers were selected by ballot. Their names, and the paintings they wanted, were drawn from a waste-paper basket.

WEST EUROPE

Christian Democrats plan change of strategy after failing to wrest Hesse from coalition

From Patricia Clough, Bonn, Oct 9

There was a bitter sense of frustration in the Christian Democratic Union today after its failure to oust the Social Democratic-Free Democratic coalition in the Hesse Land election last night.

Although no one broached the subject publicly, the party is expected to come under increasing pressure to do something drastic like setting up an allied, more conservative party if it wants to return to power in 1980.

For the Christian Democrats the outcome in Hesse was doubly familiar. Although the coalition parties, with 44.3 per cent and 6.6 per cent of the vote respectively, won the overall majority, the Christian Democrats with 46 per cent remained the strongest party. This reflects the situation in the federal Government and in certain other Länder.

It was clear that the Christian Democrats in Hesse as elsewhere, had got all the votes they could reasonably expect and that in normal circumstances they are unlikely ever to do much better.

Electoral reformers in Britain who consider West Germany's proportional system much fairer than Britain's first-past-the-post method, might be interested to hear the Christian Democrats' views about a system which relegates the strongest party to what feels like eternal opposition.

They point out that as long as the SPD-FDP coalition continues, the Christian Democrats will have to wait until the 1980 federal election to achieve power more easily.

The official results of the Hesse elections were:			
	1978	1974	% Seats
Christian Democrats (CDU)	46.0	53	47.3
Social Democrats (SPD)	44.3	50	43.2
Free Democrats (FDP)	6.5	7	7.4
Green League (GLU)	1.1	—	—
Environmentalists (EUA)	0.9	—	—
Others	1.1	2.1	—

with the votes of their smaller partners.

Leaders such as Dr Alfred Dregger, of the Hesse CDU party, feel that a system in which a change of government is possible only if the FDP switches its allegiance, is not healthy for the country. There is resentment at the fact that the Free Democrats, representing such a small proportion of the electorate, should have so much power.

This resentment is probably also partly due to the fact that despite persistent wooing by the Christian Democrats, the Free Democrats are showing no sign of changing sides in time for the 1980 federal election.

The possibility might well have arisen if the party had

dropped below the 5 per cent minimum needed for representation in Hesse, as many thought it would, but was reasonably healthy 6.6 per cent was clearly a sign of the voters' confidence in its present line and in the SPD-FDP coalition as a whole.

Dr Helmut Kohl, the national opposition leader, said that the situation must not last indefinitely. But he added that the "necessary decisions" on future strategy must wait until after the Bavarian election next Sunday and those in West Berlin, Rhineland-Palatinate and Schleswig-Holstein in the spring.

Although he dislikes the idea Dr Kohl does not exclude the possibility of forming a fourth party to campaign alongside the Christian Democrats in the hopes of bringing in more votes.

Herr Franz Josef Strauss, the leader of the Bavarian Christian Social Union, the CDU's sister party, has proposed to turn his more conservative party into a national one so that it can woo votes to the right of the Christian Democrats. Another idea, more acceptable to the Christian Democrats, would be for a parallel party to the left which would compete for the liberal Free Democratic votes.

But the CDU has serious doubts whether such a device would in fact do it any good.

Herr Strauss, who is keeping silent on the subject, much of his future strategy will depend on the degree of personal success achieved on Sunday.

Leading article, page 13

In brief

Guard murdered in Basque terror

Elgoibar, Spain, Oct 9.—Two gunmen killed Corporal Anselmo Duran Vidal, a member of the paramilitary civil guard, in this Basque town between Bilbao and San Sebastian. No one has claimed responsibility for the shooting, but police believe it was done by the Basque separatist terrorist group ETA.

Callaghan talks

Bonn, Oct 9.—Mr James Callaghan, the Prime Minister, will meet Herr Helmut Schmidt, the West German Chancellor, in Bonn on October 18 and 19 before they are expected to concentrate on the plan to create a stable currency zone in West Europe. Meanwhile, Herr Schmidt has left here for a short tour of the Far East.

Amnesty office seized

Amsterdam, Oct 9.—Ten members of a Dutch left-wing group, the Red Resistance Front, occupied the office here of Amnesty International and called for better treatment of three West German terrorists, Knut Folkerts, Christoph Wackemagel and Gerd Schneider, who are held in Holland.

Andreotti denial

Rome, Oct 9.—The office of Signor Andreotti, the Italian Prime Minister, today denied reports that he had seen records of the Red Brigades' trial of Aldo Moro, the murdered former Prime Minister, and had censored passages.

Briton shot dead

Loeben, Austria, Oct 9.—Hungarian-born Mr James Hejas, of Newport, Wales, was found shot dead alongside his journey near this southern Austrian town. He was apparently involved in a violent struggle.

Two die in gun battle

Touba, Oct 9.—Two gangsters, one wanted in connexion with the robbery at the Club Mediterranée on the island of Corfu, were killed and two others arrested in a gun battle with police here.

Champion puffer

Bremen, Oct 9.—Signor Virio Vecchi of Italy won the European pipe-smoking champion title last week because of his ship after puffing away for two hours 34 minutes and 26 seconds.

Sweden looks to Liberals for new Government

From Roger Choute, Stockholm, Oct 9

Mr Henry Allard, the Speaker of the Swedish Parliament, continued negotiations today with leaders of Sweden's five political parties in his effort to obtain a new government.

Sweden's first non-socialist government in 44 years resigned last week.

Mr Ola Ullsten, leader of the small Liberal Party, was tipped by commentators to succeed as Prime Minister. Last night he met Mr Gösta Bohman, leader of the Conservative Party, who is eager to take part in a coalition.

But a large number of Liberal MPs are said to be reluctant to form a government with the Conservatives because of ideological and other differences.

Some commentators believed that the new government may consist only of Liberals. The important socialist opposition led by Mr Olof Palme, the Social Democratic leader, would support this solution.

Election of new Pope to begin on Sunday

From Peter Nichols, Rome, Oct 9

The General Congregation of Cardinals which governs the Roman Catholic Church until a new Pope is elected, agreed today that the first rounds of voting would take place on Sunday.

The formal entry into the conclave was set for Saturday afternoon. Cardinal Conalieri, the Dean of the Sacred College of Cardinals, states today in an interview that the choice of the new Pope should be more difficult than the last conclave which settled on Pope John Paul on the first day of voting.

"I would like to think, indeed," the Dean said, "that as the situation is much the same as that of a month ago, the Sacred College will not be faced with new problems."

This view might give the impression that the conclave has nothing more to do than vote for the runner-up in the last election. Votes in papal elections are covered by all manner of means of secrecy but the world knows that the cardinal who came second in the last election, Cardinal Siri, the Archbishop of Genoa, is He is thoroughly traditional.

Delgado murder trial opens in Lisbon court

From Our Correspondent, Lisbon, Oct 9

The trial opened today in Lisbon of seven former officers of PIDE, the Salazar regime's secret police, who are charged with implication in the murder of General Humberto Delgado, Portugal's main opposition leader, in 1965.

The generals' bullet-ridden bodies and that of his woman secretary were discovered in shallow graves near the Spanish village of Vila Nueva del Fresno close to the Portuguese border. He had been lured into a trap.

Only three of the accused appear in court. They were Major Silva Pais, the last director of PIDE, Inspector Pereira de Carvalho, a high-ranking official of the force and Inspector Agostinho Tienza.

The other four fled the country. One of them, Inspector Casimiro Monteiro, is charged with being "material author of the crime". The others are charged with "moral responsibility".

Gaulists meet M Barre in air of reduced tension

From Charles Hargrove, Paris, Oct 9

Today's meeting between representatives of the Gaullist Party, led by M Claude Labbe, chairman of the RPR Parliamentary group, and M Raymond Barre, the Prime Minister, was described afterwards as having taken place in an "excellent" atmosphere.

The meeting had been requested by the party a week ago to try to work out a *modus vivendi* with the Government for the duration of the Parliamentary session.

It followed "solemn warnings" by the political committee of the RPR against the policy pursued by the Government for the past six months, the "disastrous outcome of the recent series of by-elections, and the increasing disaffection in the Gaullist view, of public opinion."

It also came after a whole series of statements, and criticisms in recent weeks by M Jacques Chirac, the RPR president and Mayor of Paris, of President Giscard d'Estaing and his policy.

The Gaullist Parliamentary seminar at Biarritz last month had, however, underlined the limitations of Gaullist rumbling and grumbling. It would never go so far as to threaten the survival of the Government, as last week's vote of censure clearly showed, by siding with the Left against it.

Britain calls for easing of European Court load

From Michael Hornsby, Luxembourg, Oct 9

Britain today called on its EEC partners to re-examine the jurisdictional powers of the European Court of Justice with the aim of enabling more cases to be decided at the level of national courts.

This proposal, which would require amendment of the Treaty of Rome, was put forward by Lord Elwyn-Jones, the Lord Chancellor, during a discussion here by EEC justice ministers of how to reduce the workload on the European court.

Speaking to journalists after the meeting, the Lord Chancellor said the court had existed for 20 years, and Britain considered the time had come to "see whether the decision of the founding fathers as to what matters should go to the court now call for revision."

One possibility, Lord Elwyn-Jones said, was that in future only the highest courts in member states should have the right to refer cases to the European court. He also suggested that specialist tribunals might be set up to handle cases of a technical nature.

Earlier this year, the president of the European Court of Justice, Mr Jean-Pierre Costa, had said that the number of cases brought to the court in 1977 to 1978 was the number of advocates-general from four to six. (The task of the advocates-general is to sum up the issues in a case and recommend a verdict, which however, the judges are not bound to accept.)

Lord Elwyn-Jones argued that before deciding on these, and other recommendations of the court, member states should look more closely at the financial implications, and at other ways of reducing the workload.

Britain feels that Article 177 of the Rome Treaty permits too many cases to be referred to national courts, including those of first instance, to the European court for an interpretation of EEC law.

This has become an increasingly important function of the European Court in recent years as the volume of EEC legislation has grown.

Lord Elwyn-Jones's suggestion drew a measure of support from France, Ireland and Denmark.

No one disputes that the European court is overworked. The number of cases brought before it has steadily risen from 19 in 1957 to 167 last year. So far this year, more than 200 cases have been taken to the court.

Earlier today, the justice ministers approved a convention providing for the reciprocal recognition and enforcement of legal judgments in civil and commercial cases throughout the EEC.

A working group was also set up to look at Belgian proposals for extending the convention to cover judgments on the legal custody of children, which are not present often a source of dispute.

PARLIAMENT, October 9, 1978.

Debate sought on proposed cull of seals in Orkneys

European Parliament, Strasbourg

Mr Tans Dalyell (West Lothian, Lab) submitted a motion under the emergency procedure calling on the Parliament to urge the Government to make representations to the British Government to make public the scientific evidence on which they based their decision to allow the culling of seals in the Orkney Islands by commercial hunters from Norway.

The motion sought time for this evidence to be tested by representatives of conservation organisations before allowing the measure of seals and seal pups to proceed and urged governments of member states to enter into discussions

about the decrease in the grey seal population in their own waters. Mr Dalyell said the matter was urgent because the seal slaughter might take place on tomorrow or even tonight.

So it was to be debated (it said) it must be done within next 24 hours.

He asked for discussion to be allowed today rather than tomorrow.

Signor Emilio Colombo, President of the Parliament, said he would consult Parliament on the urgent procedure tomorrow morning according to custom.

We will (he said) take it into account the real immediacy of this discussion.

هكذا من الإله

Six Turkish Labour politicians are murdered by gunmen

Expert help fails to save Karpov's declining game

Thais deport 5 Vietnam soldiers to Hanoi

5 Vietnam sold

cannot help me . . ."

Four other Vietnamese soldiers were put on the Air Vietnam aircraft with him. They included two with whom he was found floating.

Police had suspected that Mr Phu and his companions on the raft had been dropped by a Vietnamese aircraft to help communist insurgents.

Observers said the affair could have embarrassed

Australian concern over atom waste in desert

Our Defence Correspondent writes: The buried cache of plutonium is the residue of what the Ministry of Defence in London described last night as "a small quantity of plutonium" which a disc of plutonium was shattered. No nuclear explosion was involved.

The remains were then immersed in common salt and were buried in six separate steel containers. Each of these was placed in a concrete-lined container, placed together in a larger container and buried in a concrete-lined pit, beneath steel plates "at a considerable depth".

The ministry said that subsequent surveys had confirmed that there was no plutonium or other highly hazardous material anywhere there though it was not without risk of the fragments being exploited by terrorists.

Emperor Hirohito and Empress Nagako of Japan receiving Princess Margaret in Tokyo yesterday. The Princess had bestowed the award of Dame Grand Cross of the Order of St Michael and St George on Princess Chichibu, widow of a brother of the Emperor.

China seeks N Korean friendship

China's evident keenness to improve its diplomatic relations with the United States next year is one reason why it would not want anything to upset this balance, especially since the successful signing of the peace treaty with Japan.

ambiguous stand on certain international matters expressed by its recent friendly message to East Germany on the anniversary of that state's foundation. It was probably a sign that Peking hopes to get from Europe some of the technological assistance which it used to obtain from Russia.

Peking, for its part, neither friendly nor unfriendly

bloody Pom union leaders. They are the ones that foment all the trouble. Bloody Pom union leaders are nothing but trouble."

A brewery strike has stopped supplies of beer produced in Queensland, although beer from other states is still available. —Reuter.

Mrs Meir in hospital

Jerusalem, Oct. 9.—Mrs Golda Meir, the former Israeli Prime Minister, who is now aged 80, has gone into hospital suffering from severe back pains, for the third time within six weeks.

Hunger strike

Seabrook, New Hampshire, Oct. 9.—Twenty-three of the 42 anti-nuclear power demonstrators who were arrested for trespass at the Seabrook nuclear power plant construction site on Saturday have begun a hunger strike in their cells.

Pakistani journalists to get jobs back

of the journalists' demands. The Government meanwhile allowed Mr. Bhutto's news papers to resume publication but the journalists' protest continued for the television meant of about two dozen men dismissed by the management of the National News Trusts controlled by the Government.

More than 200 people, in cluding students, peasants and workers, joined the protest to encourage arrests. About 6 of those arrested staged hunger strike in jails. Until yesterday they had continued for 90 days of hunger strike refusing to take food and suffering only on water.

Many of them became ill and lost up to 25 lb in weight.

Announcements by the sides said that as a result of the agreement the protest by journalists and other press employees in Karachi was

The Government also directed the chairman of the National Press Trust to reinstate "A substantial number" of those dismissed from their jobs during the past few months.

It is reported that about half a dozen people, including Mr. Minhaj Barua, the president of the journalists' union, may not be reinstated immediately.

—Stepping Stones—Non-Secretarial—Secretarial & General—Tempting Times—

LA CREME DE LA CREME

OIL
£5,500

Brand new company situated in W.1 are looking for a graduate with secretarial skills to take complete control of the offices and new business ventures. This position would suit someone who wants a career and who is willing to learn about the oil business.

Contact
Janice Sherman
on 01-629 7262.

GG Graduate Girls
Graduate Men

7, Princes Street, London W1R 7HS Tel: 01-629 7262



YOU'RE SOMEONE SPECIAL

You could currently be working as a Secretary, a P.A., a teacher, a nurse, a civil servant . . . in fact we don't mind **WHAT** you are doing if you're the very special person we have in mind for a very special job.

You must be 25-35, intelligent, articulate and willing to retrain for a lucrative and worthwhile career.

We are a reputable, well established, organisation who will teach you how to communicate effectively to management level people over the telephone. The current average earnings are £5,000 plus p.a. (incl. bonus).

Think you measure up? Find out more by calling
01-743 1231, ext 230

and ask for Heleo Keimao or Brenda Spiller.

LA CREME DE LA CREME

PA/Secretary for International
lawyer
£4,600

An unusual and interesting position for committed and capable person as PA/Secretary to a Senior Counselor of respected firm of international lawyers in E.C.C. The person is responsible for the transcription of arguments arising as and when, as a result, spends some time away from the office. In addition, he is an Administrative Partner, which he again needs occasionally.

We require excellent shorthand typist including some audio. Age 25 to 35.

Please telephone Mrs Pinner on 01-488 2300 for further details.

TOP PR POST
\$4,500
Here's a vice presidential job working for an ex-journalist, who now holds a key position with one of the country's most successful P.R. Companies. There will be lots of opportunity for your own responsibilities including researching, planning, directing and looking after important administrative work.

ARTISTIC DIRECTOR
Needs help on an artistic Secretary. You in charge of all artwork for Record Store, etc. and would like something that you think is different and act accordingly. \$4,000.

Pathfinders
PERSONNEL SERVICES
36 MADISON STREET, WY.
629 3122

P.R. IN FASHION

P.R. required for leading fashion company. Previous experience and wide press contact essential. Must be flexible. Salary would be commensurate with age and experience.

Write giving full c.v. and daytime telephone number to:

JILL ROPER,
Mary Farnie Ltd.,
9 South Molton St.,
London, W.1.

£4,000

Full-time experienced shorthand
secretary with audio skills.
for Personnel Director. PLUS.

INSTITUTE OF CHILD HEALTH
UNIVERSITY OF LONDON
SENIOR PERSONAL
SECRETARY

TOURISM SECRETARIES

Are you an experienced Secretary, or maybe a first-jobber looking for experience in a thriving industry? If so, why not bring your skills to the British Tourist Authority and help us promote tourism to Britain.

Currently we have vacancies for intelligent and capable Secretaries in the following departments, based at our offices near:

Green Park, S.W.1. Chief Press and P.R. Finance Department. Directorate.	Edgware Road, N.W.1. Travel-Trade. Business Travel. Marketing Information Services.
---	---

BTA offers good salaries dependant on age and experience but not less than £3,500, flexible working hours, proficiency payments, Lvs. etc.

If you would like to find out more about us or about a particular vacancy contact: Margaret Tipper on 01-629 9191 ext 124, or write to her at Queen's House, 64 St James's Street, London, SW1A 1NF.

SECRETARIAL

SELECTION
£4,000-£5,000

*The following are just 4 excellent secretarial positions
urgently seeking your expertise . . .*

DIRECTOR	International Planning	\$4,500
-----------------	-------------------------------	----------------

SECRETARIAL

**SENSE
OF HUMOUR
VITAL**
Up to 54,000

This lucky Secretary with a little go, shorthanded will be well as a valuable asset to any of our 24 separate, fast-growing Companies accepting very considerable salaries. You can use your initiative in this vital and important part of the team. Telephone Beverly Woods

**Bernadette
of Bond St.**
Recruitment Consultants
Rm. 55, (next door to Fawcett)
01-829 7204
01-829 7393

**YOU OWE IT TO YOUR
CAREER**

to get the most well informed advice and the choice of the best jobs. Long term Career is usual - welcome!

**PERMANENT AND
TEMPORARY**

- JOYCE GUINNESS BUREAU
21 BRIMPTON ARCADE
BRIMPTON ROAD
WYNTONBRIDGE, S.W.2
Tel. 01-871 4000. A few
steps from Knightsbridge
Tube Station. Metro
exit
S91
S92
S93
S94
S95
S96
S97
S98
S99
S100
S101
S102
S103
S104
S105
S106
S107
S108
S109
S110
S111
S112
S113
S114
S115
S116
S117
S118
S119
S120
S121
S122
S123
S124
S125
S126
S127
S128
S129
S130
S131
S132
S133
S134
S135
S136
S137
S138
S139
S140
S141
S142
S143
S144
S145
S146
S147
S148
S149
S150
S151
S152
S153
S154
S155
S156
S157
S158
S159
S160
S161
S162
S163
S164
S165
S166
S167
S168
S169
S170
S171
S172
S173
S174
S175
S176
S177
S178
S179
S180
S181
S182
S183
S184
S185
S186
S187
S188
S189
S190
S191
S192
S193
S194
S195
S196
S197
S198
S199
S200
S201
S202
S203
S204
S205
S206
S207
S208
S209
S210
S211
S212
S213
S214
S215
S216
S217
S218
S219
S220
S221
S222
S223
S224
S225
S226
S227
S228
S229
S230
S231
S232
S233
S234
S235
S236
S237
S238
S239
S240
S241
S242
S243
S244
S245
S246
S247
S248
S249
S250
S251
S252
S253
S254
S255
S256
S257
S258
S259
S260
S261
S262
S263
S264
S265
S266
S267
S268
S269
S270
S271
S272
S273
S274
S275
S276
S277
S278
S279
S280
S281
S282
S283
S284
S285
S286
S287
S288
S289
S290
S291
S292
S293
S294
S295
S296
S297
S298
S299
S300
S301
S302
S303
S304
S305
S306
S307
S308
S309
S310
S311
S312
S313
S314
S315
S316
S317
S318
S319
S320
S321
S322
S323
S324
S325
S326
S327
S328
S329
S330
S331
S332
S333
S334
S335
S336
S337
S338
S339
S340
S341
S342
S343
S344
S345
S346
S347
S348
S349
S350
S351
S352
S353
S354
S355
S356
S357
S358
S359
S360
S361
S362
S363
S364
S365
S366
S367
S368
S369
S370
S371
S372
S373
S374
S375
S376
S377
S378
S379
S380
S381
S382
S383
S384
S385
S386
S387
S388
S389
S390
S391
S392
S393
S394
S395
S396
S397
S398
S399
S400
S401
S402
S403
S404
S405
S406
S407
S408
S409
S410
S411
S412
S413
S414
S415
S416
S417
S418
S419
S420
S421
S422
S423
S424
S425
S426
S427
S428
S429
S430
S431
S432
S433
S434
S435
S436
S437
S438
S439
S440
S441
S442
S443
S444
S445
S446
S447
S448
S449
S450
S451
S452
S453
S454
S455
S456
S457
S458
S459
S460
S461
S462
S463
S464
S465
S466
S467
S468
S469
S470
S471
S472
S473
S474
S475
S476
S477
S478
S479
S480
S481
S482
S483
S484
S485
S486
S487
S488
S489
S490
S491
S492
S493
S494
S495
S496
S497
S498
S499
S500
S501
S502
S503
S504
S505
S506
S507
S508
S509
S510
S511
S512
S513
S514
S515
S516
S517
S518
S519
S520
S521
S522
S523
S524
S525
S526
S527
S528
S529
S530
S531
S532
S533
S534
S535
S536
S537
S538
S539
S540
S541
S542
S543
S544
S545
S546
S547
S548
S549
S550
S551
S552
S553
S554
S555
S556
S557
S558
S559
S560
S561
S562
S563
S564
S565
S566
S567
S568
S569
S570
S571
S572
S573
S574
S575
S576
S577
S578
S579
S580
S581
S582
S583
S584
S585
S586
S587
S588
S589
S590
S591
S592
S593
S594
S595
S596
S597
S598
S599
S600
S601
S602
S603
S604
S605
S606
S607
S608
S609
S610
S611
S612
S613
S614
S615
S616
S617
S618
S619
S620
S621
S622
S623
S624
S625
S626
S627
S628
S629
S630
S631
S632
S633
S634
S635
S636
S637
S638
S639
S640
S641
S642
S643
S644
S645
S646
S647
S648
S649
S650
S651
S652
S653
S654
S655
S656
S657
S658
S659
S660
S661
S662
S663
S664
S665
S666
S667
S668
S669
S670
S671
S672
S673
S674
S675
S676
S677
S678
S679
S680
S681
S682
S683
S684
S685
S686
S687
S688
S689
S690
S691
S692
S693
S694
S695
S696
S697
S698
S699
S700
S701
S702
S703
S704
S705
S706
S707
S708
S709
S710
S711
S712
S713
S714
S715
S716
S717
S718
S719
S720
S721
S722

E4,000
MAYFAIR
A Director of one of
London's leading Estate
Agents expects more than

**ARE YOU THE ONE
THAT WE WANT?**

Due to expansion, we now need a young ambitious Secretary to work within our luxurious offices in Mayfair.

How would you like to work on your own initiative and deal with people at all levels? If you would and are aged 19-25, have good secretarial skills and a pleasant telephone manner, then you're the one for us. Now we've found you, we'll offer an excellent salary and Christmas bonus and a job with potential to get ahead.

Take your first step to the top now, by telephoning:

PHILIP STEPHENS: 01-629 7861

**ADMINISTRATIVE
SECRETARY**

To provide a secretarial service to the director of a national educational body and to work closely with him in the organisation of its activities. These include conferences, meetings, publications and the administration of grants.

Age 25+, with good educational background. Accurate

SECRETARY

Drury Lane, WC2

Highly competent secretary required for Director of fast expanding travel agency. The secretarial and administrative duties involved. As most varied and will appeal to mature secretaries who enjoy working in a friendly but hard working environment. As well as good shorthand typing speeds, a willingness to take responsibility and an ability to work on own initiative are essential. A salary of £4,000 + 2 annual bonuses + LVs to successful applicant.

Please ring Mrs O'Neill, 01-242 1554/7 for appointment.

Reliance
Executive Limited
140 Stone Street, S.W.
AP-722 BOST
(Caucasian)

TV COMMERCIALS
Are you the competent all-around man who can sell and sell of this small but very profitable product? You're specializing in cartoons and animation for commercial work. You will be expected to do the selling and the writing.

English National Opera
CONTRACTS ASSISTANT
An excellent opportunity for an English National Opera

Magnum Medicine at Hammar-
Smith Hospital. The position is
in busy academic department.
Excellent salary, excellent
benefits.

Annual salary, according to in-
come and experience, within the range
\$3,500-\$4,500 per year.

Apply in person to Professor
F. H. Hadowitz, Chairman of the
Department of Pediatrics, Hammar-
Smith Hospital, 4400 Reservoir Road,
N.W., Washington, D.C. 20014.
Please, Hammar-Smith Hospital, At-
tention: Res. Sec. 101-102, 1012
First. Please, details from Mrs. W.
Chalk, telephone 671-783 1908.

MANAGER Join at the top. £4,000
 Career position
 In all positions the duties are varied and the responsibilities are high, however the rewards are superb and you can be of assistance to you than most.
M. & J. PERSONNEL CONSULTANTS
 CITY 528 0174 WEST END 830 1832

The National Hospitals for Nervous Diseases
 Queen Square, London WC1N 3BG
 require a
PRIVATE SECRETARY
 for Private Consulting Rooms in this postgraduate

their initiative, and good educational background to reflect the superbly decorated, slick and an extra dimension to an already pleasant atmosphere. Telephone Mary Wace

**Bernadette
of Bond St.**
Recruitment Consultants
No. 55, (next door to Femrick)
01-629 1204
01-628 7363

THE GOOD LIFE!
nt

Salary negotiable around £3,750 + 1 V's. Own office, IBM Golfball. Opportunity to develop.

For further details please apply to David Bloomfield on 01-839 1211; at S.C.S.T., 1 Birdcage Walk, London, S.W.1.

NCSS

PERSONAL SECRETARIES

We are looking for personal secretaries with good skills (audio or shorthand) and initiative who would like to work for an organization which provides information/advice to

**ARE YOU ANTI
SECRETARIAL—PRO PA?
HOLBORN £5,000**

Our client is a partner in the property investment firm, Corporation in the City for a career-minded person, who will be responsible for the day-to-day interests, including the supervision of portfolio management and related investments and generally be able to know more than he does on a day-to-day basis. To arrange an appointment call me Judy Wilson.

**EXECUTIVE SECRETARIES
(Personal Secretaries)
on £25,732**

HERMES

Experienced senior sales assistant required immediately for a Sales Department. Please apply with references to Mr. Armstrong.

HERMES
155 New Bond Street
London W1V 6PA
01-429 8252

CHARTERED SURVEYORS

The City office of a leading firm of Chartered Surveyors in Fenchurch Street, require a capable executive audio secretary to work with their City Partners. For further details please contact Mr. Abjahan

SINCLAIR, GOLDSMITH
01-486 8591

**PARTNER'S
SECRETARY**

Required for small professional company based in the City of London Street, which is involved in U.K. and European property. The successful applicant will be expected to set on own initiative and to be of high professional capability. The salary of £5,000 will be paid plus bonus of 2 months. Other benefits will be available.

TELEPHONE: PETER FIELDING
01-429 1059

usually at the same time) and having an experienced producer work a short-hand not necessary, must be a

£4,000

Pathfinders
PERSONAL SERVICES

80 MADISON STREET, W1
629 5132

Computer Broking
in St. James's

A small, friendly international firm of computer-brokers are seeking a first class secretary for their marketing directors. Excellent pay and benefits. Location: St. James's

Telephone Melanie
Luther-Smith on 930
0361.

well-qualified audio-lyrists with experience of music administration. The work is highly concerned with processing guest artists contracts and assistance will be required in the general running of the department. Starting salary negotiable. Hours 10 to 6 Mon to Fri, 4 weeks paid holiday. Staff restaurant. Applications in writing with full C.V. to: Les Fotherley, English National Opera, London Coliseum, St. Martin's Lane, London WC2N 4BS.

Salary £24,500 net.

Phenzy Jay McDaniell,
7821 3861 or write to:
12 Cambridge Way,
London, W.2.

ADMINISTRATOR/A.I.A.

We are a Graphic Design Company in Cornwall and we currently have a vacancy for a highly trained lady of the accounts, progress, jobs and to liaise with our clients.

Secretary 24,500 net.

Phenzy Jay McDaniell,
7821 3861 or write to:
12 Cambridge Way,
London, W.2.

Secretarial Appointments

specialist hospital. This is so interesting and busy job working directly with consultant neurologists and psychiatrists and their patients. Applicants should have good typing, audio and shorthand. Medical secretarial experience desirable.

Salary is on the scale \$3,226-\$3,806 plus proficiency allowances for recognised secretarial qualifications.

For further details please contact Miss Gregory (Supervisor), on 01-837 3611, ext. 339 or 25.

For application form and job description write to Personnel Dept. at the above address or phone 01-837 3611, ext. 65 quoting the names and addresses of two referees.

LEGAL ASSISTANT—
TQ £4,500

Career position for someone with an interest in legal matters and the ability to handle information, draft letters, plan and coordinate office arrangements along with some secretarial duties. The type of work is in a court of law, intelligence, daily & salary £4,500 to £5,000. For more details and Mary Jones now on 248 5535.

DRAKE PERSONNEL CONSULTANTS

BRIGHT & BREEZY
£4,000 no shorthand

Exciting, money rich opportunity. Help with travel arrangements: Lunnun, coach, cable, parties, and arrange all manner's travel. Deal especially with customers and all your own correspondence. Good salary, no experience needed as it's mainly admin. 50 Sharncliffe Road, Clarendon Road, London SW2 3JX. **DRAKE PERSONNEL CONSULTANTS**

**HOWARD DE WALDEN
ESTATES**

A Department Head within this well-known property company is seeking a highly motivated, experienced, and successful Secretarial Bureau Agent to assist in the management of the company's real estate, insurance, and investment activities. The successful candidate will be responsible for the coordination and supervision of all administrative and clerical functions. The position offers excellent salary, benefits, and a challenging work environment. For consideration, please send your resume and references to:

**HOWARD DE WALDEN
ESTATES
10000 Sunset Blvd., Suite 1000
Beverly Hills, CA 90210
Tel: (310) 274-1234**

**EXOTIC
MOTOR CARS**

Super efficient secretary PA, preferably with interest in exotic motor cars. Ability to work on own initiative a necessity. Submit resume and salary summation for right application.

01-340 0829

RECEPTIONIST/SECRETARY w/ good Anglo writing for busy mfg. co. in N.Y. City. 21. A Agency. 699 8262

charities and local community voluntary organisations.
Salary up to £3,500 per annum (under review), depending
on qual./exp. - 4 weeks and 3 days leave; flexhours;
Georgian square close to Oxford St.

Further details from
The Administrator
NCSS
26 Bedford square, London WC1B 3HU
Tel.: 01-436 4068

**Member of Personnel/
Chairman Advertising
Agency**

PRIVATE SECRETARY

With excellent formal skills and
a retentive memory required
for constituency, parliamentary,
advertising and personal work.
Based in Fulham, some
22-1. Salary £2,500 neg. Free
parking.

**"We'll Miss You
ON YOUR DAYS OFF"**

Just a 27-year-old lawyer in
fine civil practice, asked us to
leave and secretary who will start
her office, and become as in-
volved as she is in her work. She
tells us that she tells us that
such a small company, ready to
listen, important, and you
become such an integral part of
the company that you'll be re-
imbursed on your day's net. Legal
experience not necessary, but
sharehold is salary negotiable
example £4,000 at 21 cc.

Call Mike Cost on 580 3536
ALISON HARCING LTD.
(Personal Consultants)

**"Ring Miss Angela Dobbs
on 01-731 4331."**

هكذا من الأصل

Legal Appointments

Group Solicitor Designate

Lincolnshire Five figure salary + car

THE NICKERSON GROUP is a substantial and expanding group of private companies with international agricultural interests. Growth and internal reorganisation have created the need to provide for my successor. After a short proving period the successful candidate will succeed to the post of Group Solicitor with responsibility for providing a comprehensive legal service to all companies within the Group.

It is hoped that the person selected will be at least 30 years old with a good law degree, and will have had at least four to five years relevant experience since admission.

Group Head Office is located in an attractive part of rural Lincolnshire, and working conditions are good. The position involves a wide range of legal work and embraces an interesting variety of responsibilities, some of which could involve overseas travel of short duration.

Salary is open to negotiation. A company car is provided and there is a contributory pension scheme and permanent health benefits. Relocation expenses will be assisted.

Applications with brief details in strictest confidence to:-

J. N. Scammell, L.L.B., Group Solicitor, The Nickerson Group, Rotherwell, Lincs. LN7 6BL.



The Nickerson Group

Articled Clerkships

Legal training opportunities

For a limited number of young men and women to be articled to senior solicitors in the Government Legal Service in London.

The Government's business, even within a single department, can be so diverse that legal problems rarely repeat themselves. Every day brings new material to the lawyer's desk, and new problems to solve.

This means that successful candidates will be given an invaluable insight into a broad spectrum of legal matters including advisory work, litigation, conveyancing and prosecution.

Candidates, preferably aged under 26, must have obtained by Summer 1979 a degree with 1st or 2nd class honours or a post graduate degree.

They should normally be exempt from or have passed Part I of the Law Society Examination. To have taken Part II or intend taking it before entering articles will be an advantage.

Starting salary at least £3575. Appointment as Legal Assistant (maximum £7740) follows admission as a solicitor. Promotion prospects to £12700 and above. Non-contributory pension scheme.

For further details and an application form (to be returned by 3 November 1978) write to Civil Service Commission, Alencon Link, Basingstoke, Hants, RG21 1JB, or telephone Basingstoke (0256) 68351 (answering service operates outside office hours).

Please quote ref: G67911.

Government Legal Service

LEGAL ASSISTANT TO THE COMMERCIAL SECRETARY



The Heating and Ventilating Contractors' Association has a senior level vacancy for a Legal Assistant to the Commercial Secretary.

The HVCA is the recognised trade and employers' association for the heating, ventilating and air conditioning contracting industry representing over a thousand member firms in an industry with an annual turnover of approximately £500m.

We are looking for a legally qualified person with a commercial outlook.

The work which is interesting and varied will include:

- Projects and advice to members on a wide range of legal and commercial matters;
- Negotiations and discussions with Government Local Authorities and other bodies on contract conditions and related matters;
- Acting as Secretary to Committees;
- Securing on management courses including contract law.

The position would suit a recently qualified lawyer. It is essential that applicants have a high standard of verbal and written presentation, the ability to deal with people at a senior level and are capable of working on their own initiative.

Salary is negotiable and is commensurate with the importance of this position within the Association. Fringe benefits include Season Ticket Purchase Scheme, Health and Medical Insurance Schemes and Retirement Pension Scheme and Luncheon Vouchers.

Applications, stating age, education and qualifications and, where appropriate, details of experience and present salary should be addressed in confidence to:

The Commercial Secretary,
Heating & Ventilating Contractors' Association,
ESCA House,
34 Palace Court,
Bayswater, London W2 4JG.

SOLICITORS URGENTLY REQUIRED FOR THE EAST MIDLANDS

The area is undergoing rapid environmental change and is in need of a solicitor with a good degree of experience in the following areas:

- (a) Litigation including Matrimonial and Family Law.
- (b) Probate, Trusts and Tax.
- (c) Conveyancing including Commercial Leasing and Estate Development.

Salary commensurate with age and experience but not less than £6,000 per annum.

Applications in writing to: The Staff Partner, Wallace Mitchell, The Octagon, Derby Road, Nottingham NG7 1NE.

SOLICITOR

Partnership prospects for able and efficient (solicitor) admitted up to five years with conveyancing/probable experience.

Apply in writing to:
Debenham & Co.,
20 Hana Road,
Knightsbridge,
London
SW3 1RT
Ref. AGH

Osmond Gaunt & Rose

require

LITIGATION SOLICITOR

preferably qualified five years, to handle large volume of civil, matrimonial, commercial, and criminal cases at their Holborn office. Substantial salary for right person.

Apply Mr. J. Kent,
349 Regent Park Road, 3
Finsbury, N.4.
Tel: 01-492 0021

INSURANCE, Accounting or Broking experience

Apply to: 55 Fleet Street, London, E.C.4. 555 7000

ALANCA Legal Mail, the specialist

for a confidential service to employers and staff at all levels. Telephone: 01-492 0021

Write to: Mr. J. Kent, 349 Regent Park Road, 3 Finsbury, N.4. Tel: 01-492 0021

Apply to: 55 Fleet Street, London, E.C.4. 555 7000

Write to: Mr. J. Kent, 349 Regent Park Road, 3 Finsbury, N.4. Tel: 01-492 0021

Apply to: 55 Fleet Street, London, E.C.4. 555 7000

Write to: Mr. J. Kent, 349 Regent Park Road, 3 Finsbury, N.4. Tel: 01-492 0021

Apply to: 55 Fleet Street, London, E.C.4. 555 7000

Write to: Mr. J. Kent, 349 Regent Park Road, 3 Finsbury, N.4. Tel: 01-492 0021

Apply to: 55 Fleet Street, London, E.C.4. 555 7000

Write to: Mr. J. Kent, 349 Regent Park Road, 3 Finsbury, N.4. Tel: 01-492 0021

Apply to: 55 Fleet Street, London, E.C.4. 555 7000

Write to: Mr. J. Kent, 349 Regent Park Road, 3 Finsbury, N.4. Tel: 01-492 0021

Apply to: 55 Fleet Street, London, E.C.4. 555 7000

Write to: Mr. J. Kent, 349 Regent Park Road, 3 Finsbury, N.4. Tel: 01-492 0021

Apply to: 55 Fleet Street, London, E.C.4. 555 7000

Write to: Mr. J. Kent, 349 Regent Park Road, 3 Finsbury, N.4. Tel: 01-492 0021

Apply to: 55 Fleet Street, London, E.C.4. 555 7000

Write to: Mr. J. Kent, 349 Regent Park Road, 3 Finsbury, N.4. Tel: 01-492 0021

Apply to: 55 Fleet Street, London, E.C.4. 555 7000

Write to: Mr. J. Kent, 349 Regent Park Road, 3 Finsbury, N.4. Tel: 01-492 0021

Apply to: 55 Fleet Street, London, E.C.4. 555 7000

Write to: Mr. J. Kent, 349 Regent Park Road, 3 Finsbury, N.4. Tel: 01-492 0021

Apply to: 55 Fleet Street, London, E.C.4. 555 7000

Write to: Mr. J. Kent, 349 Regent Park Road, 3 Finsbury, N.4. Tel: 01-492 0021

Apply to: 55 Fleet Street, London, E.C.4. 555 7000

Write to: Mr. J. Kent, 349 Regent Park Road, 3 Finsbury, N.4. Tel: 01-492 0021

Apply to: 55 Fleet Street, London, E.C.4. 555 7000

Write to: Mr. J. Kent, 349 Regent Park Road, 3 Finsbury, N.4. Tel: 01-492 0021

Apply to: 55 Fleet Street, London, E.C.4. 555 7000

Write to: Mr. J. Kent, 349 Regent Park Road, 3 Finsbury, N.4. Tel: 01-492 0021

Apply to: 55 Fleet Street, London, E.C.4. 555 7000

Write to: Mr. J. Kent, 349 Regent Park Road, 3 Finsbury, N.4. Tel: 01-492 0021

Apply to: 55 Fleet Street, London, E.C.4. 555 7000

Write to: Mr. J. Kent, 349 Regent Park Road, 3 Finsbury, N.4. Tel: 01-492 0021

Apply to: 55 Fleet Street, London, E.C.4. 555 7000

Write to: Mr. J. Kent, 349 Regent Park Road, 3 Finsbury, N.4. Tel: 01-492 0021

Apply to: 55 Fleet Street, London, E.C.4. 555 7000

Write to: Mr. J. Kent, 349 Regent Park Road, 3 Finsbury, N.4. Tel: 01-492 0021

Apply to: 55 Fleet Street, London, E.C.4. 555 7000

Write to: Mr. J. Kent, 349 Regent Park Road, 3 Finsbury, N.4. Tel: 01-492 0021

Apply to: 55 Fleet Street, London, E.C.4. 555 7000

Write to: Mr. J. Kent, 349 Regent Park Road, 3 Finsbury, N.4. Tel: 01-492 0021

Apply to: 55 Fleet Street, London, E.C.4. 555 7000

Write to: Mr. J. Kent, 349 Regent Park Road, 3 Finsbury, N.4. Tel: 01-492 0021

Apply to: 55 Fleet Street, London, E.C.4. 555 7000

Write to: Mr. J. Kent, 349 Regent Park Road, 3 Finsbury, N.4. Tel: 01-492 0021

Apply to: 55 Fleet Street, London, E.C.4. 555 7000

COMMERCIAL LAWYER

We are seeking a young lawyer to contribute constructive and practical ideas to divisional and group management in the UK and to managements of subsidiaries overseas. He or she will be joining the legal team in London of this expanding £300M turnover agrochemical, fertiliser, pharmaceutical and scientific equipment Group.

This attractive, challenging post involving overseas travel offers wide career opportunities to someone with commercial flair, in their mid-twenties and with at least two years' post qualifying experience in

practice or industry. The international content of the job makes a second language an asset.

If the post interests you and you meet our requirements, please write enclosing brief career details to: J. V. L. Morgan, Group Legal Advisor, Fisons Limited, Fison House, 9 Grosvenor Street, London W1X 0AH.



DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATION AND LAW

Assistant Solicitor

Post Ref: AL411—£6,180-£6,861 (Inclusive of Supplement)

Some local government experience desirable but not essential, and recently qualified applicants may be considered. Duties will include committee attendance, advocacy, and general legal and administrative work.

Legal Assistant

Post Ref: AL423—£4,773-£5,568 (Inclusive of Supplement)

The successful applicant will be required to handle, with minimum supervision, a varied conveyancing workload and other legal work. Applicants should possess a background of practical experience and be Associate Members of the Institute of Legal Executives, with a commitment to obtain the Fellowship. Removal and Disturbance Allowance Scheme in appropriate cases.

The Borough has a population of 224,000 and covers a varied area of urban development and open countryside. Further details available from Mr. M. Kenny, telephone Barnsley 203232, Ext 238. Application forms from the Establishment Officer, Town Hall, Barnsley, closing date 27th October, 1978.

BARNSELY METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL

Solicitors for Commercial and Financial work

Coward Chance have vacancies for newly-qualified solicitors for training in international commercial and financial work of a challenging kind. A substantial degree of responsibility will follow at an early stage with opportunities for travel. Applicants should have a good degree but previous commercial experience, though desirable, is not essential. Please write with full C.V. to: G. L. Warchant, Coward Chance, Royce House, Aldermanbury Square, London EC2Y 7LD

COWARD CHANCE

COMPANY AND COMMERCIAL

Boodle, Hatfield and Co. are looking for a young solicitor to join their Company and Commercial Department. He or she will handle a wide variety of work for both U.K. and overseas clients. Some experience of this type of work, either during articles or since qualifying, is desirable. Salary negotiable up to £6,000 p.a.

Please write with details of academic qualifications and professional experience to:

Boodle, Hatfield and Co. (Ref. JKRP)
53 Davies St., London, W1Y 2BL

PENSIONS SPECIALIST

We are seeking a person with legal or other appropriate qualifications to work with a partner specialising in the pensions field. There will be an opportunity for involvement in related work for corporate clients.

Applicants should have an up to date knowledge of pensions, legislation and practice, and some experience in drafting and settling documentation for occupational pension schemes.

Salary will be negotiable with consideration given to experience in relevant fields.

Applications to Richards, Butler & Co., 5 Clifton Street, London, E.C.2 (Mr. Walker)

SOLICITOR FOR HONG KONG

Solicitor required for Denton Hall & Burgin Hong Kong with not less than three years' experience in building contract work.

Salary HK dollars 10,000 per month plus fringe benefits.

Apply in writing to:

DENTON, HALL & BURGIN,
3 Gresham Place,
London WC1R 5EA.

WIGGINS TEAPE LTD. SOLICITOR FOR INDUSTRY up to £8,500

Wiggins Teape Limited, a leading international paper company with worldwide interests, require a Solicitor to work in its Head Office in Basingstoke reporting to the Company Solicitor.

The work of the Department covers an extensive range of legal and commercial work including most aspects of contracts and licensing, industrial relations, industrial property, and corporate law. The successful candidate will have direct contact with management at all levels and will be encouraged to acquire a thorough knowledge of the Group's business.

Particular responsibilities will be the supervision and control of the Group's trade marks and will include some domestic and commercial conveyancing.

Applicants should be Solicitors, ideally in their late twenties or early thirties. Some years post qualified experience in a commercial law department or practice is desirable.

Benefits are in line with those awarded from a major company.

To apply send brief details to:

Mr. R. H. Gould, Personnel Services Manager,
Wiggins Teape Limited,
Gateway House,
Basing View, Basingstoke, Hampshire, RG21 2EE.

UNFAIR COMPETITION

The Distillers Company Limited requires another lawyer at its London Headquarters to join a small team engaged in the protection of the Group's whole range of brands and products against unfair competition in many varied and intriguing forms. Since the Group's brands are sold world-wide the job offers the challenge of dealing with problems under many contrasting legal systems.

Applicants should be in their middle twenties, be graduates, and have at least two years' post-qualifying experience at the Bar or as a solicitor, preferably in the field of litigation. A knowledge of foreign languages is not essential but would be an advantage.

After an initial period learning the ropes, the successful applicant will be expected to work without supervision advising Group companies on all types of problems coming within the Department's sphere. Some foreign travel may be anticipated.

Salary will depend on age and experience but will be high competitive.

Please reply in writing to:

W. J. F. Bryce Esq., The Distillers Company Limited,
21 St James's Square, London SW1Y 4JF.

CONTRACTS AND TENDERS

PETROLEO BRASILEIRO S.A. - PETROBRAS RIO DE JANEIRO-BRAZIL

Announcement of Competitive Bidding Supex-03/78

- Petrobras announces the opening of a competitive bidding for petroleum exploration in areas located onshore and offshore Brazil.
- The relevant contracts shall be executed in the form of "service contracts", provided that contractor's remuneration shall be contingent upon the achievement of commercial production from the fields discovered and developed by contractor.
- In order to obtain the application form, interested companies, with experience and tradition in such field of the petroleum industry, are requested to contact Petrobras, at one of the addresses below:
 - Av Republica Do Chile, 65-23 Andar, Sela 2339—Rio De Janeiro—Estado Do Rio De Janeiro—Brazil.
 - 77 South Audley Street—2nd Floor—London—W.1.Y—England.
 - 1221, Avenida of the Americas—22nd Floor—New York, NY—U.S.A.
 - 86, Av Champs Elysees, 8EME Etage—Paris 8—France.
- The said application form is to be filled in by the interested company, and then returned to any one of the addresses indicated above, until 5 p.m. (local time), the 10th of November, 1978.
- Each company will be informed as from the 4th of December, 1978, of the result of its application in the preliminary selection and of the basic conditions it must comply with for the purpose of making its bids.
- Participation in the said preliminary selection does not and shall not imply the granting of any privileges, privileges or rights to any of the interested companies, it being understood that Petrobras is absolutely free to, at its sole discretion, cancel, remake or dispense with such preliminary selection, or invite which company it may choose in order to contract with for the execution of the services referred to in this announcement.

Rio De Janeiro, October 10th, 1978.

EXPLORATION CONTRACTS SUPERINTENDENCY

—SUPEX—

Appointments Vacant

GENERAL VACANCIES

WANTED FOR MANCHESTER CITY CENTRE

Someone to manage a brand new concept in retailing modern furniture and design. Must be interested in Bauhaus design and be able to cope with the extravaganzas of customers paying £3,000 for a leather sofa.

PLEASE PHONE (0274) 35661

OR WRITE TO: 30 CHAPEL STREET, BRADFORD BD1 5DN.

ASH

Action on Smoking and Health

The new position of Administrative Officer is being filled in this small, active charity.

We need a person with some experience in the field of public relations, and the ability to cope with a wide variety of tasks including office management, fundraising, and coordination of branch and other activities.

Salary is approx £4,000-£5,000 p.a. plus L.V.B.

Please write with C.V. to:

Director, ASH, 27 Mortimer Street, London W1N 7JL by Julia October.

ANGLO-AUSTRIAN SOCIETY

requires an Accounts Assistant with a love of figures, pleasant personality, and a good knowledge of German and English. Knowledge of Latin and French is an advantage. The successful candidate will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the Society's accounts, and will be required to prepare monthly and annual financial statements.

Salary is £3,000 p.a. plus L.V.B.

Apply in writing, Anglo-Austrian Society, 20 Queen Anne's Gate, SW1A 1AA.

THE LADY WEEKLY JOURNAL

needs an experienced EDITORIAL ASSISTANT

for writing, layout, and proof reading.

Please apply in writing to:

THE EDITOR, THE LADY, 100, Old Bailey, London EC4A 3DF.

Surand, London WC2E 9ER.

INTERNATIONAL COMPANY

requires a Sales Manager to meet with clients, negotiate contracts, and manage the company's sales in the field of international trade.

The successful candidate will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the company's sales, and will be required to prepare monthly and annual sales reports.

Salary is £6,000 p.a. plus L.V.B.

Apply in writing, International Company, 20 Queen Anne's Gate, SW1A 1AA.

Surand, London WC2E 9ER.

Apply in writing, International Company, 20 Queen Anne's Gate, SW1A 1AA.

Surand, London WC2E 9ER.

Apply in writing, International Company, 20 Queen Anne's Gate, SW1A 1AA.

Surand, London WC2E 9ER.

Apply in writing, International Company, 20 Queen Anne's Gate, SW1A 1AA.

Surand, London WC2E 9ER.

Apply in writing, International Company, 20 Queen Anne's Gate, SW1A 1AA.

Surand, London WC2E 9ER.

PUBLIC AND EDUCATIONAL

DIE BENEDICT SCHULE

4444 Beach 21, New York 10016, N.Y. Tel: 011-212-351-1235

</

Salerooms and Antiques

Sotheby's

FOUNDED 1811

SOOTHEY PARK BERNET & CO.
34-35 NEW BOND STREET, LONDON W1A 2AA
TEL: (01) 493 8080

AUTUMN ISLAMIC AND IRANIAN SALES

Tuesday 10th October at 11 am and 2.30 pm
IRANIAN AND ISLAMIC CERAMICS, ARMS AND
ARMOUR, METALWORK, GLASS, TEXTILES
AND QAJAR ENAMELS
Cat. (28 illustrations, 4 in colour) £2.70

Thursday 12th October at 10 am
FINE RUGS AND CARPETS FROM IRAN,
TURKEY, EGYPT, INDIA, THE CAUCASUS,
AFGHANISTAN, TURKISTAN
Including the property of Lady Colman, Baroness
Pallant and Paulett Goddard Remarque
Cat. (133 illustrations, 49 in colour) £5.30

Thursday 12th October at 10.30 am
ISLAMIC COINS, MAINLY IN GOLD
Cat. (4 plates) 63p

Friday 13th October at 11 am
ENGLISH FURNITURE AND CONTINENTAL
WORKS OF ART (18 illustrations) 85p

Monday 16th October at 10.30 am
AUTOGRAPH LETTERS, LITERARY
MANUSCRIPTS AND HISTORICAL DOCUMENTS
Cat. 30p

Monday 16th October at 11 am
OBJECTS OF VERTU, SILHOUETTES AND
ENGLISH AND CONTINENTAL PORTRAIT
MINIATURES Cat. (43 illustrations) £1.75

Tuesday 17th October at 10.30 am and 2.30 pm
MODERN AND ANTIQUE FIREARMS, ARMOUR
AND EDGED WEAPONS
Including the property of Lady Melissa Walker
Cat. (17 plates) 50p

Tuesday 17th October at 11 am
VALUABLE PRINTED BOOKS
Including the property of the Duke of Devonshire
and Robert von Hirsch Cat. (25 plates) £1.30

Catalogues may be purchased at our salerooms or by post from 2 Merrington Road, London SW6 1RG. Telephone: (01) 381 3173

Scotland: John Robertson, 19 Castle Street, Edinburgh EH2 3AH. Telephone: (031) 226 5438
Ireland: Nicholas Nicholson, 35 Molesworth Street Dublin 2. Telephone: 1011 789 368

Tuesday 17th October at 10.30 am and 2.30 pm
A French closed bourgeois, c. 1633

Tuesday 17th October at 10.30 am and 2.30 pm
A French closed bourgeois, c. 1633

Tuesday 17th October at 10.30 am and 2.30 pm
A French closed bourgeois, c. 1633

Tuesday 17th October at 10.30 am and 2.30 pm
A French closed bourgeois, c. 1633

Tuesday 17th October at 10.30 am and 2.30 pm
A French closed bourgeois, c. 1633

Tuesday 17th October at 10.30 am and 2.30 pm
A French closed bourgeois, c. 1633

Tuesday 17th October at 10.30 am and 2.30 pm
A French closed bourgeois, c. 1633

Tuesday 17th October at 10.30 am and 2.30 pm
A French closed bourgeois, c. 1633

Tuesday 17th October at 10.30 am and 2.30 pm
A French closed bourgeois, c. 1633

Tuesday 17th October at 10.30 am and 2.30 pm
A French closed bourgeois, c. 1633

Tuesday 17th October at 10.30 am and 2.30 pm
A French closed bourgeois, c. 1633

Tuesday 17th October at 10.30 am and 2.30 pm
A French closed bourgeois, c. 1633

Tuesday 17th October at 10.30 am and 2.30 pm
A French closed bourgeois, c. 1633

Tuesday 17th October at 10.30 am and 2.30 pm
A French closed bourgeois, c. 1633

Tuesday 17th October at 10.30 am and 2.30 pm
A French closed bourgeois, c. 1633

Tuesday 17th October at 10.30 am and 2.30 pm
A French closed bourgeois, c. 1633

Tuesday 17th October at 10.30 am and 2.30 pm
A French closed bourgeois, c. 1633

Tuesday 17th October at 10.30 am and 2.30 pm
A French closed bourgeois, c. 1633

Tuesday 17th October at 10.30 am and 2.30 pm
A French closed bourgeois, c. 1633

Tuesday 17th October at 10.30 am and 2.30 pm
A French closed bourgeois, c. 1633

Tuesday 17th October at 10.30 am and 2.30 pm
A French closed bourgeois, c. 1633

Tuesday 17th October at 10.30 am and 2.30 pm
A French closed bourgeois, c. 1633

Tuesday 17th October at 10.30 am and 2.30 pm
A French closed bourgeois, c. 1633

Tuesday 17th October at 10.30 am and 2.30 pm
A French closed bourgeois, c. 1633

Tuesday 17th October at 10.30 am and 2.30 pm
A French closed bourgeois, c. 1633

Tuesday 17th October at 10.30 am and 2.30 pm
A French closed bourgeois, c. 1633

Tuesday 17th October at 10.30 am and 2.30 pm
A French closed bourgeois, c. 1633

Tuesday 17th October at 10.30 am and 2.30 pm
A French closed bourgeois, c. 1633

Tuesday 17th October at 10.30 am and 2.30 pm
A French closed bourgeois, c. 1633

Tuesday 17th October at 10.30 am and 2.30 pm
A French closed bourgeois, c. 1633

Tuesday 17th October at 10.30 am and 2.30 pm
A French closed bourgeois, c. 1633

Tuesday 17th October at 10.30 am and 2.30 pm
A French closed bourgeois, c. 1633

Tuesday 17th October at 10.30 am and 2.30 pm
A French closed bourgeois, c. 1633

Tuesday 17th October at 10.30 am and 2.30 pm
A French closed bourgeois, c. 1633

Tuesday 17th October at 10.30 am and 2.30 pm
A French closed bourgeois, c. 1633

Tuesday 17th October at 10.30 am and 2.30 pm
A French closed bourgeois, c. 1633

Tuesday 17th October at 10.30 am and 2.30 pm
A French closed bourgeois, c. 1633

Tuesday 17th October at 10.30 am and 2.30 pm
A French closed bourgeois, c. 1633

Tuesday 17th October at 10.30 am and 2.30 pm
A French closed bourgeois, c. 1633

Tuesday 17th October at 10.30 am and 2.30 pm
A French closed bourgeois, c. 1633

Tuesday 17th October at 10.30 am and 2.30 pm
A French closed bourgeois, c. 1633

Tuesday 17th October at 10.30 am and 2.30 pm
A French closed bourgeois, c. 1633

Tuesday 17th October at 10.30 am and 2.30 pm
A French closed bourgeois, c. 1633

Tuesday 17th October at 10.30 am and 2.30 pm
A French closed bourgeois, c. 1633

Tuesday 17th October at 10.30 am and 2.30 pm
A French closed bourgeois, c. 1633

Tuesday 17th October at 10.30 am and 2.30 pm
A French closed bourgeois, c. 1633

Tuesday 17th October at 10.30 am and 2.30 pm
A French closed bourgeois, c. 1633

Tuesday 17th October at 10.30 am and 2.30 pm
A French closed bourgeois, c. 1633

Tuesday 17th October at 10.30 am and 2.30 pm
A French closed bourgeois, c. 1633

Tuesday 17th October at 10.30 am and 2.30 pm
A French closed bourgeois, c. 1633

Tuesday 17th October at 10.30 am and 2.30 pm
A French closed bourgeois, c. 1633

Tuesday 17th October at 10.30 am and 2.30 pm
A French closed bourgeois, c. 1633

Tuesday 17th October at 10.30 am and 2.30 pm
A French closed bourgeois, c. 1633

Tuesday 17th October at 10.30 am and 2.30 pm
A French closed bourgeois, c. 1633

Tuesday 17th October at 10.30 am and 2.30 pm
A French closed bourgeois, c. 1633

Tuesday 17th October at 10.30 am and 2.30 pm
A French closed bourgeois, c. 1633

Tuesday 17th October at 10.30 am and 2.30 pm
A French closed bourgeois, c. 1633

Tuesday 17th October at 10.30 am and 2.30 pm
A French closed bourgeois, c. 1633

Tuesday 17th October at 10.30 am and 2.30 pm
A French closed bourgeois, c. 1633

Tuesday 17th October at 10.30 am and 2.30 pm
A French closed bourgeois, c. 1633

Tuesday 17th October at 10.30 am and 2.30 pm
A French closed bourgeois, c. 1633

Tuesday 17th October at 10.30 am and 2.30 pm
A French closed bourgeois, c. 1633

Tuesday 17th October at 10.30 am and 2.30 pm
A French closed bourgeois, c. 1633

Tuesday 17th October at 10.30 am and 2.30 pm
A French closed bourgeois, c. 1633

Tuesday 17th October at 10.30 am and 2.30 pm
A French closed bourgeois, c. 1633

Tuesday 17th October at 10.30 am and 2.30 pm
A French closed bourgeois, c. 1633

Tuesday 17th October at 10.30 am and 2.30 pm
A French closed bourgeois, c. 1633

Tuesday 17th October at 10.30 am and 2.30 pm
A French closed bourgeois, c. 1633

Tuesday 17th October at 10.30 am and 2.30 pm
A French closed bourgeois, c. 1633

Tuesday 17th October at 10.30 am and 2.30 pm
A French closed bourgeois, c. 1633

Tuesday 17th October at 10.30 am and 2.30 pm
A French closed bourgeois, c. 1633

Tuesday 17th October at 10.30 am and 2.30 pm
A French closed bourgeois, c. 1633

Tuesday 17th October at 10.30 am and 2.30 pm
A French closed bourgeois, c. 1633

Tuesday 17th October at 10.30 am and 2.30 pm
A French closed bourgeois, c. 1633

Tuesday 17th October at 10.30 am and 2.30 pm
A French closed bourgeois, c. 1633

Tuesday 17th October at 10.30 am and 2.30 pm
A French closed bourgeois, c. 1633

Tuesday 17th October at 10.30 am and 2.30 pm
A French closed bourgeois, c. 1633

Tuesday 17th October at 10.30 am and 2.30 pm
A French closed bourgeois, c. 1633

Tuesday 17th October at 10.30 am and 2.30 pm
A French closed bourgeois, c. 1633

Tuesday 17th October at 10.30 am and 2.30 pm
A French closed bourgeois, c. 1633

Tuesday 17th October at 10.30 am and 2.30 pm
A French closed bourgeois, c. 1633

Tuesday 17th October at 10.30 am and 2.30 pm
A French closed bourgeois, c. 1633

Tuesday 17th October at 10.30 am and 2.30 pm
A French closed bourgeois, c. 1633

Tuesday 17th October at 10.30 am and 2.30 pm
A French closed bourgeois, c. 1633

Tuesday 17th October at 10.30 am and 2.30 pm
A French closed bourgeois, c. 1633

Tuesday 17th October at 10.30 am and 2.30 pm
A French closed bourgeois, c. 1633

Tuesday 17th October at 10.30 am and 2.30 pm
A French closed bourgeois, c. 1633

Tuesday 17th October at 10.30 am and 2.30 pm
A French closed bourgeois, c. 1633

Tuesday 17th October at 10.30 am and 2.30 pm
A French closed bourgeois, c. 1633

Tuesday 17th October at 10.30 am and 2.30 pm
A French closed bourgeois, c. 1633

Tuesday 17th October at 10.30 am and 2.30 pm
A French closed bourgeois, c. 1633

Tuesday 17th October at 10.30 am and 2.30 pm
A French closed bourgeois, c. 1633

Tuesday 17th October at 10.30 am and 2.30 pm
A French closed bourgeois, c. 1633

Tuesday 17th October at 10.30 am and 2.30 pm
A French closed bourgeois, c. 1633

Tuesday 17th October at 10.30 am and 2.30 pm
A French closed bourgeois, c. 1633

Tuesday 17th October at 10.30 am and 2.30 pm
A French closed bourgeois, c. 1633

Tuesday 17th October at 10.30 am and 2.30 pm
A French closed bourgeois, c. 1633

Tuesday 17th October at 10.30 am and 2.30 pm
A French closed bourgeois, c. 1633

Tuesday 17th October at 10.30 am and 2.30 pm
A French closed bourgeois, c. 1633

Tuesday 17th October at 10.30 am and 2.30 pm
A French closed bourgeois, c. 1633

Tuesday 17th October at 10.30 am and 2.30 pm
A French closed bourgeois, c. 1633

Tuesday 17th October at 10.30 am and 2.30 pm
A French closed bourgeois, c. 1633

Tuesday 17th October at 10.30 am and 2.30 pm
A French closed bourgeois, c. 1633

Tuesday 17th October at 10.30 am and 2.30 pm
A French closed bourgeois, c. 1633

Tuesday 17th October at 10.30 am and 2.30 pm
A French closed bourgeois, c. 1633

Tuesday 17th October at 10.30 am and 2.30 pm
A French closed bourgeois, c. 1633

Tuesday 17th October at 10.30 am and 2.30 pm
A French closed bourgeois, c. 1633

Tuesday 17th October at 10.30 am and 2.30 pm
A French closed bourgeois, c. 1633

Tuesday 17th October at 10.30 am and 2.30 pm
A French closed bourgeois, c. 1633

Tuesday 17th October at 10.30 am and 2.30 pm
A French closed bourgeois, c. 1633

Tuesday 17th October at 10.30 am and 2.30 pm
A French closed bourgeois, c. 1633

SOOTHEY'S BELGRAVIA
19 MOTCOMBE STREET, LONDON SW1X 8LB
TEL: (01) 235 4311

Tuesday 10th October at 11 am
VICTORIAN PAINTINGS, DRAWINGS AND
WATERCOLOURS Cat. (95 illustrations) £1

Wednesday 11th October at 11 am
ENGLISH FURNITURE, ENGLISH, FRENCH AND
CONTINENTAL WORKS OF ART AND CLOCKS
Cat. (31 illustrations) £1

Thursday 12th October at 10.30 am
19TH AND 20TH CENTURY ENGLISH AND
FOREIGN SILVER, PLATED WARES, OBJECTS
OF VERTU AND MINIATURES FROM 1857
Cat. (76 illustrations) £1

Friday 13th October at 11 am and 2.30 pm
DECORATIVE ARTS 1880-1940 INCLUDING ART
NOUVEAU AND ART DECO Cat. (107 illustrations, 6 in colour) £2.70

Sale on the Premises, at
CLAYTON COURT, CREWKERNE, SOMERSET
On the instructions of the Executors of the late
Louis Martineau
Wednesday 11th October at 10.30 am
FURNITURE AND OTHER CONTENTS
Cat. (75 illustrations) £1

115 CHANCERY LANE (HODGSON'S ROOMS),
LONDON WC2A 1PL. TEL: (01) 465 7238
Thursday 12th October and following day at 1 pm
ART REFERENCE BOOKS Cat. 75p

SOOTHEY BEARNE, RAINBOW
TORQUAY TQ2 5TG. TEL: (0843) 26277
Wednesday 15th October at 2.15 pm
IMPORTANT ENGLISH AND CONTINENTAL
FURNITURE Cat. (48 plates) £1

SOOTHEY MAK VAN WAAY B.V.
102 KOKIN, AMSTERDAM C.
Tel. 020 610 1000
Friday 13th October to Monday 16th October
at 10.30 am and 2 pm
GENERAL SALE Cat. £3.10

Scotland: John Robertson, 19 Castle Street, Edinburgh EH2 3AH. Telephone: (031) 226 5438
Ireland: Nicholas Nicholson, 35 Molesworth Street Dublin 2. Telephone: 1011 789 368

Scotland: John Robertson, 19 Castle Street, Edinburgh EH2 3AH. Telephone: (031) 226 5438
Ireland: Nicholas Nicholson, 35 Molesworth Street Dublin 2. Telephone: 1011 789 368

Scotland: John Robertson, 19 Castle Street, Edinburgh EH2 3AH. Telephone: (031) 226 5438
Ireland: Nicholas Nicholson, 35 Molesworth Street Dublin 2. Telephone: 1011 789 368

Scotland: John Robertson, 19 Castle Street, Edinburgh EH2 3AH. Telephone: (031) 226 5438
Ireland: Nicholas Nicholson, 35 Molesworth Street Dublin 2. Telephone: 1011 789 368

Scotland: John Robertson, 19 Castle Street, Edinburgh EH2 3AH. Telephone: (031) 226 5438
Ireland: Nicholas Nicholson, 35 Molesworth Street Dublin 2. Telephone: 1011 789 368

Scotland: John Robertson, 19 Castle Street, Edinburgh EH2 3AH. Telephone: (031) 226 5438
Ireland: Nicholas Nicholson, 35 Molesworth Street Dublin 2. Telephone: 1011 789 368

Scotland: John Robertson, 19 Castle Street, Edinburgh EH2 3AH. Telephone: (031) 226 5438
Ireland: Nicholas Nicholson, 35 Molesworth Street Dublin 2. Telephone: 1011 789 368

Scotland: John Robertson, 19 Castle Street, Edinburgh EH2 3AH. Telephone: (031) 226 5438
Ireland: Nicholas Nicholson, 35 Molesworth Street Dublin 2. Telephone: 1011 789 368

Scotland: John Robertson, 19 Castle Street, Edinburgh EH2 3AH. Telephone: (031) 226 5438
Ireland: Nicholas Nicholson, 35 Molesworth Street Dublin 2. Telephone: 1011 789 368

Scotland: John Robertson, 19 Castle Street, Edinburgh EH2 3AH. Telephone: (031) 226 5438
Ireland: Nicholas Nicholson, 35 Molesworth Street Dublin 2. Telephone: 1011 789 368

Scotland: John Robertson, 19 Castle Street, Edinburgh EH2 3AH. Telephone: (031) 226 5438
Ireland: Nicholas Nicholson, 35 Molesworth Street Dublin 2. Telephone: 1011 789 368

Scotland: John Robertson, 19 Castle Street, Edinburgh EH2 3AH. Telephone: (031) 226 5438
Ireland: Nicholas Nicholson, 35 Molesworth Street Dublin 2. Telephone: 1011 789 368

Scotland: John Robertson, 19 Castle Street, Edinburgh EH2 3AH. Telephone: (031) 226 5438
Ireland: Nicholas Nicholson, 35 Molesworth Street Dublin 2. Telephone: 1011 789 368

Scotland: John Robertson, 19 Castle Street, Edinburgh EH2 3AH. Telephone: (031) 226 5438
Ireland: Nicholas Nicholson, 35 Molesworth Street Dublin 2. Telephone: 1011 789 368

Scotland: John Robertson, 19 Castle Street, Edinburgh EH2 3AH. Telephone: (031) 226 5438
Ireland: Nicholas Nicholson, 35 Molesworth Street Dublin 2. Telephone: 1011 789 368

Scotland: John Robertson, 19 Castle Street, Edinburgh EH2 3AH. Telephone: (031) 226 5438
Ireland: Nicholas Nicholson, 35 Molesworth Street Dublin 2. Telephone: 1011 789 368

Scotland: John Robertson, 19 Castle Street, Edinburgh EH2 3AH. Telephone: (031) 226 5438
Ireland: Nicholas Nicholson, 35 Molesworth Street Dublin 2. Telephone: 1011 789 368

Scotland: John Robertson, 19 Castle Street, Edinburgh EH2 3AH. Telephone: (031) 226 5438
Ireland: Nicholas Nicholson, 35 Molesworth Street Dublin 2. Telephone: 1011 789 368

Scotland: John Robertson, 19 Castle Street, Edinburgh EH2 3AH. Telephone: (031) 226 5438
Ireland: Nicholas Nicholson, 35 Molesworth Street Dublin 2. Telephone: 1011 789 368

Scotland: John Robertson, 19 Castle Street, Edinburgh EH2 3AH. Telephone: (031) 226 5438
Ireland: Nicholas Nicholson, 35 Molesworth Street Dublin 2. Telephone: 1011 789 368

Scotland: John Robertson, 19 Castle Street, Edinburgh EH2 3AH. Telephone: (031) 226 5438
Ireland: Nicholas Nicholson, 35 Molesworth Street Dublin 2. Telephone: 1011 789 368

SPORT

Cricket

Boycott gains support as Yorkshire prepare their reply

By Richard Streeton

The reasons for Geoffrey Boycott's removal from the Yorkshire cricket captaincy are to be made public by the county club, John Temple, the chairman of the county's cricket committee, said yesterday that it had been agreed to give a full explanation of the matter.

Mr Temple declined to say anything more and it has not yet been decided when the club's statement will be made. Yorkshire's public statements over the years in the various controversies in which the club has been involved have always been terse and uninformative. Their intention to reply in detail to Boycott's forthright criticisms on television is a measure, perhaps, of the unrest that the affair has aroused.

Even some of Boycott's supporters were surprised and dismayed at the allegations he made concerning lack of loyalty and they fear that he may have lost the case. Certainly, the Yorkshire committee could not ignore the interview and the implications equally, together with the fact of the two-year contract offered to Boycott as a player. The committee are to discuss Boycott's remarks at a special meeting on Thursday but it is likely they will be made known well before that.

Yorkshire's statement will be drafted with legal advice. It could be deferred until the special meeting of the club that is being called by Boycott's supporters. The Yorkshire CCC Members' Reform Group, who stayed in being after last year's attempt to oust Boycott failed, now have the required two and a half per cent of the 12,500 Yorkshire members on their petition sheets necessary for a special meeting.

By last night John Featherstone, the group's secretary, after only a week's activity, had been assured of more than 700 signatures, at least twice the number required. Counsel's opinion has already been enlisted to help frame the resolutions the group propose to put to the special meeting. These have not yet been finalized but they are expected to call for the resignation of Yorkshire's existing committee and for Boycott's reinstatement as captain.

The petition and resolutions will probably be handed in at Yorkshire's offices in Headingley on Friday. Under the club's rules, the meeting must be arranged within three weeks and every member must have 14 days' notice, so mid or late November seems the likely date. Proxy votes can be sent by those not attending.

Mr Featherstone was understandably elated at the response his group has had. He also welcomed Yorkshire's decision to make a full explanation. "There has always been too much of a cloak of secrecy about these things," he said. "A lot of trouble would have been spared if the committee had been frank from the start. It is only right and proper that members have the chance to hear the facts. Even if anything the committee says now makes the special meeting unnecessary, it is still for the best that the ordinary member has a chance to listen and to speak."

Boycott will be in Australia when the meeting takes place. He would obviously like to be present but it seems unlikely that the England tour management would approve of him returning home briefly with all the strain that two such lengthy air journeys would involve.

Boycott was unrepentant yesterday about his remarks. "All I have said is true and, although the committee might not like it, they can't escape the fact. I don't like bringing it all up in public but I have been made the scapegoat for things that are not my fault. I don't see why they should be swept under the carpet."

Boycott's present dispute with Yorkshire has so far not been referred officially to the Test and County Cricket Board at Lord's. Under the Board's disciplinary regulations, a cricketer has the right of reply within a limited period in any dispute with his employers. Incidentally, though, the Boycott case is being closely followed at Lord's.

Nobody connected with the matter—on either side—is willing to forecast the outcome of the special meeting. Even leading members of the reform group admit that it is impossible to be certain. The Yorkshire Evening Post last night, when the committee's decision became known. There were some 240 calls to the newspaper office and only 12 were answered. Boycott. Letters to the Yorkshire Post are mixed. Some who admire Boycott's cricket ability concede he is not an ideal captain.

Everyone is unanimous, however, about the unfortunate timing of the Yorkshire committee's decision, within two days of the death of Boycott's mother. This alone has brought him much sympathy. Only last night, however, Joe Lister, the Yorkshire secretary, making what he termed was a personal defence, said the relevant meeting, which had been arranged five weeks earlier, could have been postponed but Boycott insisted on attending in spite of his mother's death.

The odds must remain heavily stacked against Boycott as many people feel relations have been too strained already to enable him to return. The 36-strong Yorkshire committee, who appoint the cricket committee, include 23 district representatives. Once the emotional waves settle, the traditional conservative thinking of Yorkshire members could resurface itself.

Boycott's allies are also concerned at the legal problems arising from rule nine of the club's constitution. It reads: "The management of the club and of its property, funds and affairs, shall be vested in the committee whose decision on all matters relating thereto, shall be final and binding on every member of the club."

Should Boycott's supporters lose their case, there could be mass resignations, which, with full membership subscriptions standing at £14 a head, would prove costly to Yorkshire. The annual meeting early next year could also be disrupted by moves to reject the committee's annual report.

Those closest to Boycott are positive he will play for Yorkshire again only if he is captain. They do not see him playing for any other county and believe his future might lie in either league cricket, or in South Africa or in Australia, though not necessarily with Kerry Packer. The end of the story lies a long way ahead, one feels, with further bitter wrangling, also a full complement of legal undertones, to come.

Supreme court hearing on Thomson to begin

Sydney, Oct 9.—A hearing will begin in Sydney's Supreme Court on Wednesday to determine whether former Test fast bowler Jeffrey Thomson plays for Kerry Packer and World Series Cricket (WSC) this summer.

The Australian Cricket Board initiated proceedings against Thomson and WSC after Thomson signed a three-year contract with WSC on October 23.

The Australian Cricket Board will claim in the equity hearing that Thomson signed two contracts with the Board and with the

Athletics

China promises to cooperate with the IAAF

Hongkong, Oct 9.—China has pledged closer cooperation with the International Amateur Athletic Federation, which last week voted to admit China at the expense of Taiwan. The pledge was made by Li Meng-Bin, vice-president of the All-China Sports Federation and president of the Chinese Athletic Association.

The IAAF, meeting in San Juan, Puerto Rico, voted on Thursday to let in China by 203 votes to 153.

This decision reflects long-cherished common aspirations and demands of athletes and people of various countries and conforms with the historical trend," Mr Li said.

The Chinese Athletic Association is willing to enhance cooperation with the IAAF on the basis of mutual respect.

Mr Li also confirmed a guarantee made by Peking to the IAAF that Taiwanese athletes would be allowed to compete in future international contests under the Chinese flag.

"On many occasions we have notified and welcomed them to take part in our national games and national selective trials for important international tournaments. We ensure sportsmen and women now living in Taiwan freedom to come and go when they come to participate in competitions," he said.—Reuters.

Ice skating

Miss Richardson to miss Richmond event

Karen Richardson, the British skating champion, has bronchitis, and misses the Ice International, sponsored by Rotary Watches, at Richmond, starting tomorrow.

Home hopes now rest on the 16-year-old replacement Tracey Solomons, herself recovering from the after-effects of tonsillitis. Deborah Connell and Theresa Foy, ranked second and third in Britain, were unable to compete and that has given fourth rated Tracey her big chance.

"This will be a great experience for me, and I am hoping to learn from the stars in the competition," said Tracey. Karen's absence is a second blow for Britain. The men's number one Robin Cousins, earlier withdrew with a stress fracture of the left shin.

Weightlifting
Cervantes, world champion, won gold medal in light body weight, 51kg, on Saturday. He was followed by G. Bank (Germany), 50kg, and H. Nielsen (Sweden), 51kg, who took silver and bronze respectively.

Weightlifting
Cervantes, world champion, won gold medal in light body weight, 51kg, on Saturday. He was followed by G. Bank (Germany), 50kg, and H. Nielsen (Sweden), 51kg, who took silver and bronze respectively.

Motor racing

A giant leap for Villeneuve, a small step for Stewart's prediction

From Richard Low
Montreal, Oct 9

With his victory in the Canadian Grand Prix here yesterday, young Gilles Villeneuve gave the first real proof he may be on the way to the bright career that Jackie Stewart and James Hunt have predicted for him.

A 26-year-old Canadian who has justifiably acquired a reputation for youthful over-exuberance, has at last enriched his style with an intelligence and maturity that could place him on several more grand prix winners' podiums.

Granted, Villeneuve's first formula one win was greatly attributable to the breakdown of Jean-Pierre Jarier's Lotus and perhaps to the light Ilie Notre Dame race that was well-suited to his 12-cylinder Ferrari with its superior acceleration out of the corner's 25 turns. On the other hand, Villeneuve was closing the gap when a broken oil seal in Jarier's car ruptured and forced him out of the race in the 50th lap.

He became the first Canadian to win a grand prix, and set off a tumultuous celebration by thousands of supporters in his home province. With 74,832 spectators, it was the largest crowd to attend a race in Canada.

Villeneuve, who began his driving career racing snowmobiles in Quebec, drove at an average speed of about 99.5 mph to win by more than 15 seconds from Jody Scheckter, a Wolf and 19

seconds ahead of his Ferrari team colleague, Carlos Reutemann.

Riccardo Patrese returned from his one-race suspension to finish fourth in his Arrows. Patsese was barred from the United States Grand Prix last week as punishment for several dangerous driving incidents, most notably the first-lap accident at Monza that subsequently claimed the life of Ronnie Peterson. Patrick Depailler finished fifth in his Tyrrell and Derek Daly picked up his first championship point by placing sixth in an Ensign.

The 1978 world champion, Mario Andretti, finished a dismal ninth in a Lotus. James Hunt, driving his last race for McLaren, ran off the course with a suspension problem in the 52nd lap. Among the other nine dropouts were Emerson Fittipaldi, Niki Lauda and John Watson.

Hunt, indeed, is one of Villeneuve's discoverers. After being beaten by him in a Formula Atlantic race in Trois-Rivieres, Quebec, in 1976, Hunt recommended him to the McLaren team manager, Teddy Mayer, who engaged him to drive in the British Grand Prix last year. He finished a remarkable 11th with an elderly McLaren M23. Moving to Ferrari last season, he drove impressively, but perhaps too spiritedly, in the Canadian and Japanese Grands Prix.

In Japan, though, a collision with Peterson sent his car hurtling over a fence, killing two spectators standing in an off-

limits area. In his first full season with Ferrari this year, Villeneuve led the United States Grand Prix West to the halfway point before his impetuous style sent him careering into Clay Regazzoni. That was the end of the day for Villeneuve, but a valuable lesson in what it takes to become a winning driver.

Almost immediately thereafter, maturity, patience and thought became part of his driving and his performance improved. With fourth place in Belgium, a third in Austria, and a sixth in The Netherlands, he at last began to realize the potential that flowered with his win here. Perhaps it is his few great leaps forward to a world championship predicted for him three years ago by Stewart, who enthusiastically repeated his prognosis throughout the week here.

RESULTS: 1. G. Villeneuve (France), 2. C. Reutemann (Argentina), 3. R. Patrese (Italy), 4. J. Jarier (France), 5. P. Depailler (France), 6. D. Daly (Ireland), 7. M. Andretti (USA), 8. J. Watson (Scotland), 9. E. Fittipaldi (Brazil), 10. N. Lauda (Austria), 11. J. Hunt (Great Britain), 12. J. Scheckter (South Africa), 13. A. Jones (New Zealand), 14. B. Stiller (Switzerland), 15. G. B. P. (USA), 16. J. Schlesinger (USA), 17. J. Schlesinger (USA), 18. J. Schlesinger (USA), 19. J. Schlesinger (USA), 20. J. Schlesinger (USA).

Tennis

Davis Cup loss 'puts Australia in wilderness'

Melbourne, Oct 9.—The Davis Cup defeat of Australia by Britain over the weekend was a severe financial blow for the Lawn Tennis Association of Australia, the LTAA president, Brian Tobin, said today.

"I think Australia will be in the Davis Cup wilderness for several years," Mr Tobin said. "Had we won in London we would have played the final at Kooyung, Melbourne, and the LTAA could have got 100,000 dollars out of it. Too many young players are going overseas too soon without enough basic training and experience."

The LTAA is to consider a membership scheme for Australia's 400,000 tennis players as a way of raising finance. The Association turns over about \$42m a year, but most of the money goes in prize money.

Meanwhile, although Paul Hutchings, the team manager, Roger Becker, the coach and all four members of the side were still in a euphoric state after their 3-2 semi-final round win over Australia, Hutchings at least was able to see the problems lying ahead. "Of course it is a nice feeling to have won this match and put ourselves among the top tennis playing nations," he said. "But there are problems and these will have to be ironed out."

Squash rackets

Wall decoration with alarming possibilities

By Rex Bellamy
Squash Rackets Correspondent

The winner of a squash rackets tournament to be played at Wembley from November 25 to December 1 will be presented with a cheque for £2,200 which is by no means unusual, and a sword, which is slightly alarming—particularly as the winner is likely to belong to a breed, the Pathans, who are not traditionally renowned for using swords as wall decorations. This innovation arises from the involvement of the Wilson Sword company, primarily known for razor blades and garden tools. The award will be a hand-made replica of the kind of sword used by medieval knights.

The tournament will be the sixth and last of a series in which Pakistan International Airlines are providing air tickets and prize money (£10,000 a tournament) and more local sponsors—in this case Wilkinson's—are meeting such additional costs as hotel accommodation, court time, and the engagement of tournament officials. In addition to prize money, players receive points according to their performance at every tournament. After Wembley, the eight leaders on points qualify for the 16-man first round draw.

Yachting

SAN FRANCISCO: World Star champion, Phil D. Drake, won the America's Cup, 1978, in the 16-man first round draw.

PIA Masters championship, to be played in Karachi in December.

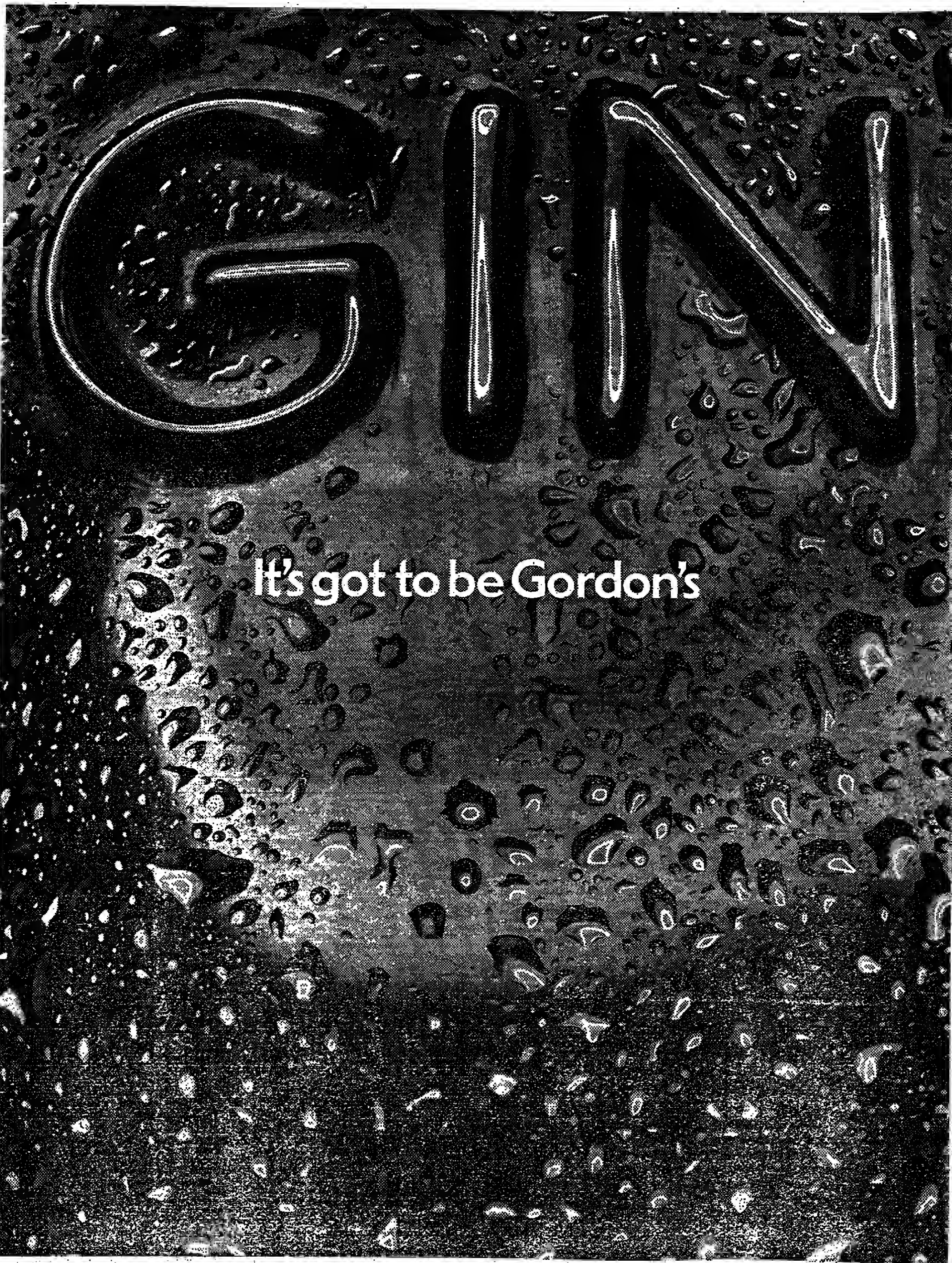
The first three tournaments, played in the Netherlands, Sweden and West Germany, were all won by Qamar Zaman. The world champion, Geoffrey Hunt, who was having some trouble with his racket arm, was beaten by Zaman in the Netherlands, by another Pathan, Hidayat Jahan, in Sweden, and scratched from the draw in Australia. But Hunt won the Australian championship at the weekend. The remaining PIA tournaments will be played in Singapore, Egypt, and at Wembley.

Jonah Barrington, six times British open champion, has recovered from injury and has entered for the Wembley event. Yesterday he said that PIA and John Boddington, the London-based director of the series, were to be congratulated on launching a coordinated circuit of tournaments that should expand as the years went by. It was, he said, a stimulating venture that demonstrated the advantages of professional promoters who knew what they were doing.

At Wembley there will be a preliminary round in which eight invited British amateurs will compete with professionals for places in the 16-man first round draw.

Cricket

RAWALPINDI: Indians, 258 for 8, dec and 24 for 0; Pakistan, 20, 199.



one is reduced to complete despair when one observes what is happening in the rest of the world while the British remain paralysed by the consequences of the privileges irresponsibly conceded to the trade unions by law. I am writing to the Far East and when one watches here how even Japan is now being beaten in ever more fields by South Korea and other newcomers who have discovered the benefits of free markets, one cannot but wonder when one asks how in ten years' time Britain is to get the food to feed her people.

This is not merely a question of whether Britain can do without Japanese or Korean cars or other products. It is a question of how other people can be made to buy British shoes, or shoes, or steel, or textiles, or chemicals when not only Japanese and Korean factories and shipyards produce them more efficiently and cheaply, but when other countries' people surpass Britain in almost every other industry.

astounding versatility — and when not only British scientists and engineers but increasingly also skilled British workers find that they can do better to other countries whose business and trade has not been ossified by trade union restrictions. A drastic change may still provide an outlet, but after another decade during which nobody dares to touch the sacred cow, it will certainly be too late.

© Times Newspapers Ltd, 1978

itself for the occupational patterns of the near future under which a great deal more work is going to be part-time or intermittent and where "second income" support in most households is going to be vital to maintain good living standards.

Again this is an area where Britishness has been entirely negative in face of obvious and worsening employment trends (although the need for a second income coming into the home is already only too familiar to very many families) while the country has opted to work in the husband moonlighting in an effort to make ends meet under current conditions).

Now if this picture of the Conservative future is criticized as being too "classless", not giving enough political prominence and deference to trade union hierarchies, or to the old class loyalties, not recognizing the "new class" rise of the worker and his newly won, the owner and his capital, not compromising enough between the two, then these are criticisms which should surely be welcomed and embraced. Indeed they describe the central characteristics of the society which the Conservative and the socialist intermission can be terminated.

Maybe it sounds a bit remote from the two nation preoccupations of Disraeli. Yet one cannot help wondering whether the old master himself, if reincarnated, might not have looked out from the Hurlingham lawns at the housing estate breaking over the horizon and realized that the time had come to take the Conservative Party a step further forwards—and lead the one nation into which events are now moulding us out of it.

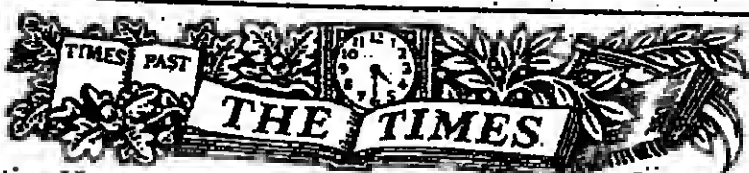
the grocer's? They all look alike to me." Holmes looked up and said, "Attentamente, my dear Watson."

Heralding new men of arms

Appointments are being made by Letters Patent of two of the lowest paid civil servants in the kingdom. Thomas Woodcock and Patrick Dickinson (who spells his Christian name without a final k after the poet) are about to be gazetted as Rouge Croix Pursuivants. Both are young Oxford graduates. Rouge Croix brings the number of harristiers from the Inner Temple at the College of Arms to three.

Although their titles resonate with the splendours of Froissart, their wages are humble: £13.35 a year from the Privy purse. NUPE please note. They receive an occasional equally modest largesse from the Queen, end make their bread, end butter, from their heraldic and genealogical practice. In the concomitant shuffle of court cards at the college the present Rouge Croix, Hubert Chesshyre, apily becomes Chester Herald, end the old Rouge Dragon, Theobald Mathe, is promoted to Windsor Herald, stepping into the rhabd of Colin Cole, who has become Carter King of Arms, stepping into the rhabd of Sir Anthony Wagner, who becomes Clarenceux King of Arms.

Philip Howard



New Printing House Square, London, WC1X 8EZ. Telephone: 01-837 1234

PRISONS CAN NO LONGER COPE

The state of prisons is becoming more and more depressing, and no end to the misery seems in sight. The apparently inexorable decline of the prison system into near-chaos is matched by the inability of the government and the other authorities involved to provide any relief. It is only through luck that there have been no recent major incidents causing loss of life or serious injury and the descent of some prisons into anarchy. That good fortune cannot hold out indefinitely.

At present, the main threat to the system comes from the prison officers, who, in some prisons, and for various stated grounds, are carrying on forms of industrial action, in some cases against the advice of their own association. At the same time, there is clearly growing unrest among prisoners, one manifestation of which was last week's fortunately brief and not too serious demonstration at Gartree. Prisoners' complaints too, take many forms, and have varying degrees of justification. When both captives and guards have deeply felt grievances, it does not make for a happy well run and disciplined prison. The source of the simmering discontent on both sides of the barred door—which, of course, has a cumulative and interacting effect—is, whatever immediate reason is given, essentially the same, common one.

The blunt fact is that prisons can no longer cope. It is not just the shortage of prison accommodation, resulting in appallingly overcrowded conditions, nor of the antiquity and unsuitability of so many prisons. Nor, on the other side, is it merely the problem of obtaining more officers, or paying the existing ones more. Money would obviously help, to build new institutions and to improve the lot of the prison

officer. But that would not be the end of it. In any case, the amounts required would clearly be beyond reach.

The crisis in prisons is also a crisis of faith and philosophy. The neat assumptions which governed the establishment of the existing prison system last century no longer apply with such certainty. The conflicting views of the penal reformers and the proponents of punishment have resulted in an uneasy and constantly shifting compromise. The intervention of the sociologists and the criminologists have contributed to the sum of knowledge about crime and penology, but the conclusions to be drawn from the information acquired have not always been clear, and have often been inconsistent. That confusion over methods and aims has not, of course, been confined to the physical administration of prisons, but has extended to the whole law and order debate.

For the moment, there seems little option but to make as much money as possible available to alleviate the worst of the squalor, and use as many ways as possible to ensure that the only people sent to prison are those that ought to be there. There is no (NO) shortage of ideas, some more practical than others, on how to reduce the prison population. The most obvious is for fewer people to be sent to prison in the first place. It is now widely accepted that there are categories of offenders who should not be in prison at all, but have to be sent there because of the lack of appropriate alternatives. Habitual drunkards, who keep appearing before the courts, charged with usually minor offences, ought, according to the Government's own policy, to be in detoxification centres. But pathetically few are in operation or planned. Mentally disturbed

offenders ought to be in institutions that are geared to treating their illness. But there are not enough of them, and they are all full. Judges, against their wishes, are having to send such offenders to prison. Maintenance defaulters, arguably, should no longer be subject to imprisonment.

The extension of the use of such non-custodial alternatives as Community Service Orders is an aim agreed to by all. But there are only so many schemes available, and so many probation officers and social agencies available to supervise the offenders subject to such orders. Shorter prison sentences for those going into prison for the first time are an appealing method of reducing the prison population, but the case for shorter sentences for more serious offenders has not been satisfactorily made out. Any attempt greatly to extend the parole system would be equally controversial. The recent, thoughtful report of the House of Commons Expenditure Committee on reducing pressure on the prison system recommends experimenting with weekend imprisonment, which works well in some other countries. It also calls for a thorough enquiry into the staffing levels, shift systems, and rates of basic pay of prison officers. That, and many other of its proposals should be acted on. In the end, however, failing the urgent injection of massive funds which, in any event, would largely be taken up with longer-term projects, it is only possible to tinker with the system. If applied to sufficient areas, such tinkering could have a marked cumulative effect. Unfortunately, there seems to be little sign that the government or the judiciary is looking at the problem with the necessary sense of urgency. The outlook for prisons is gloomy.

A Quaker's view of Pope John Paul

From Dr R. Edgar Hope-Simpson
Friend, Will you permit a Quaker to comment on the unfortunate suggestion made by your religious affairs correspondent, (October 2) that Pope John Paul, who may be prompted to question the authenticity of what they supposed was divine guidance and the value of seeking it?

I hope that your correspondent is sincerely, and not merely mischievously, mistaken. For more than three centuries Quakers have conducted all their meetings for church affairs and their meetings for worship in dependence on the guidance of the Holy Spirit in a manner similar to that used by the Cardinals in electing a new Pope, although Friends publish their findings less dramatically.

The Spirit operates in manifold ways, but it has been our experience that in a well-kept meeting it does so most frequently by altering the minds and hearts of those assembled, causing them a deeper love of God and of one another, a subtle process that results in a new appreciation of the values to be sought in solving the problems before them.

The election of the late Pope appears to have been a superb example. The gathered Cardinals, one supposes, were brought to understand what it was that they were to seek—a happy shepherd perhaps, who loved his sheep, worshipped his Master, cared nothing for pomp, feared privilege, spurned riches, accepted his responsibility.

Looking for a man with these great qualities, they rightly recognized them in Albino Luciani. The guidance, then, they received is unlikely to have changed so soon (but you can tell).

They now have the task of similarly choosing another such good shepherd and will not, one hopes, be impeded by the jejune unbelief, suggested by Clifford Lacey and other commentators. The Cardinals, wise and good men, have had long experience in recognizing and obeying the leadings of the Spirit.

We have seen how richly their prayers have already been answered. They may mourn the passing of Pope John Paul, but must be grateful for the harvest of his reign of 33 days.

Many of us, not Roman Catholics, had hitherto found it difficult to understand how the Papacy accords with the religion of Jesus.

Some of us, thanks to Pope John Paul, have at last caught a glimpse of how it may come to reflect something of the joy, humility and passion for service of the Master whom all Christians strive to follow.

I do not know exactly what Cardinal Basil Hume meant by "God's candidate", but am in no doubt that the election was in right ordering.

Your sincere friend,
R. EDGAR HOPE-SIMPSON,
Corinthian Gate,
Cirencester,
Gloucestershire.

From Mr Wayne Jones

Sir, A Religious Affairs Correspondent is presumably a journalist who is interested in, and not

necessarily personally committed to religious beliefs. Thus Mr Longley's article of October 2 need not surprise his readers.

In raising the "to what purpose" problem, he was doing no more than he was professionally entitled to do, whatever his own views as to a solution might be. In the interests of free discussion such questions cannot be prevented, and if they cause resentment among committed Christians, this is simply the lot of those who take a stand on issues which can be variously interpreted, as the Bishop of Leeds (October 5).

But if the Pope's early death gives rise to the problem why does it particularly do so? Why start or stop there?

It would surely be reasonable to express the same puzzlement over events which in the scales of human suffering are far more weighty. We are hardly short of such events.

To "dubiously question the divine purpose" when one man dies, remembering how he has been graded his own importance, shows a lack of perspective, whether one has faith in it or not.

Yours faithfully,
WAYNE JONES,
Audley Avenue,
Battersea, London,
October 6.

From Mr S. Pilkington
Sir, Cardinal Hume and other leading Roman Catholics ask what the meaning is of the untimely death of Pope John Paul.

The late Pope seems to have been a most lovely and admirable man, and one's sympathy naturally goes out to all his relatives and friends in their grief. Nevertheless, for an unbeliever, there is no astonishment when a confirmed cigarette smoker in his sixties has a fatal heart attack.

Although I do not see any sign of the Holy Spirit playing a part in these matters, it would undoubtedly be of enormous benefit to mankind if every Catholic were to begin campaigning vigorously against the use of tobacco.

Yours faithfully,
STEPHEN PILKINGTON,
Rotherfield Hall,
Jarvis Brook,
Crowthorne,
Surrey,
October 5.

Smoke signal

From Garioch Pursuivant of Arms
Sir, With regard to the difficulty concerning the Conclave Snake it may be helpful to mention that traditionally it was never the colour but the volume which indicated the result of the scrutineers.

A billowing cloud of any hue marked the inconclusive ballots while the faint puff, or indeed none at all, at the expected hour, as in 1829, was the signal that the Pope was made.

Yours faithfully,
JOHN GEORGE GARIOCH,
15 Kemmings Place Court,
Sancroft Street, SE11.

Churchill and Tonyandy

From Mr David B. Smith
Sir, Tim Jones, in his article of September 21, correctly identifies Churchill's assured niche in South Wales as one of the reasons for poor Conservative showings at the polls. During the general election of 1950 the late forlorn Thomas, MP, issued leaflets to his constituents in Rhondda West as a direct result of Churchill's passing mention of Tonyandy at an election rally in Cardiff. The leaflets were headed: "Troops in Tonyandy" and asked: "Was it his conscience that prompted him to mention Tonyandy?"

For Sir John Walley (Letters, October 3) this must seem yet another example of South Wales "malevolence" (though, benevolence enough). A Conservative councillor was recently elected in mid-Rhondda, whereas it is, in fact, the articulation of a folk memory that merged the 1910-11 dispute of 10 months duration with the 1926 lock out of 8 months duration and the 1940-41 dispute of 10 months with the domestic bellicosity of the Conservative Chancellor in 1926.

Churchill's role in November, 1910 was, compared with the local owners, magistracy and police, conciliatory enough. He had no desire to "Tonyandy" the miners as his predecessor, Churchill, has become "Featherstone" Asquith, after troops had shot two men in the Yorkshire disturbance, not at a time of considerable political difficulty for the Liberal Government.

No one was shot in Tonyandy. One man died from head wounds after police clashed with strikers. The troops were used circumspectly. Sir John, however, as "a seeker after truth", should have pushed on beyond the official biography since folk memory was not wrong in all its details—troops did, indeed, see Tonyandy.

At the root of the confusion is the fact that there were two riots, not one. On Monday, November 7, strikers clashed with police under the command of the Chief Constable at the Glamorgan Colliery, Llynwypia (a quarter mile north of Tonyandy) and it was after this fierce fight that troops were requested and sent by GOC Southern Command.

The Home Office had been contacted to see the possible supply of military force as early as November 2 by the Merthyr Tydfil magistracy since there was a contemporary dispute of comparable magnitude in the Aberdare Valley. On Tuesday, November 6, not convinced of the necessity of troops, Churchill then halted movement though he did send on 100 mounted police and 200 on foot.

The message from Churchill that was read to a mass meeting of the

strikers that afternoon, concluded, "we are holding back the soldiers for the present and sending only police". 200 cavalry were in stationed in Cardiff. That night, after a further bitter struggle with police, the only cavalry unit completely stopped in the Cambrian Combine group (whose head was the Liberal MP, D. A. Thomas), the commercial high street was wrecked.

At this point troops were again requested and cavalry, authorized by the Home Office, were on their way to Cardiff. On the evening of General Sir Nevill Macready, whose 2 volume *Annals of an Active Life* (1924) give a graphic account of his handling of the military situation, was put in overall command of police and troops.

Churchill advised him on November 9 that "vigorous action by the police may be the best means of preventing recourse to fire arms". Macready had 2 squadrons of Hussars and 2 infantry companies at his immediate disposal in the affected district, with 30 machine gun companies within a 30 mile radius.

His own HQ was at Pontypridd, a town at the confluence of both valleys, from where the cavalry paraded both valleys. On November 9 Macready reported "At about 8 pm I received instructions from the Home Secretary to go to Llynwypia to the Lancashire Fusiliers by rail from Pontypridd to Llynwypia and relieve the 1st South Wales Fusiliers who had been there during the day."

These extracts, along with further documentation of the use of troops in crowd control with fixed bayonets, can be found in *Colliers Strike* (disturbances in South Wales: Correspondence and Report: November, 1910 (Cd. 5568) and David Evans' *Labour Strife in the South Wales Coalfield 1910-11* (1914).

The troops, both in their backup capacity and in their direct use, were an important element in the failure of the strike. The last of the military did not leave the area until October 1911 when the men had resumed work at the terms rejected in November 1910. Churchill was, understandably, not accorded a neutral position by those who had been on strike for so long.

It was this conception of natural justice that had led the crowd (not the mob), after a police charge on November 8, to remind those "inoffensive shopkeepers" of Sir John Walley of their own role in the societal fracture that led, via the catalyst of the industrial dispute, to the riots, and thence the importing of troops and the ineradicable epithet of "Tonyandy" whenever Churchill's name is mentioned. But that is another, and more complicated, part of the social history of South Wales.

Yours faithfully,
DAVID SMITH,
Department of History of Wales,
University College,
Cardiff.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Finding the full cost of a pay claim

From Professor A. I. Chmies-Ross
Sir, If pay policy is to continue as a regular part of the Government's activity in stabilisation (as I believe it should and, with only brief interruptions, will), means need to be devised to make it both more generally acceptable and more responsive to the needs of recruitment and to hard cases.

The case for not giving every group of workers what its employers can be persuaded to pay rests on the effect that this will have on other workers, potential workers, pensioners and their families.

This needs to be brought home to the public in detail over every case on which the authorities choose to make a stand. For this purpose there is a strong argument for setting up a small unit which would be required to say quickly, loudly, and as accurately as possible where the relevant claimants stand in relation to average earnings and the ordinal ranking of rates and earnings, how they have risen or fallen relatively and absolutely over the recent past, and what, on various reasonable assumptions, would be the additional inflation (driven a target or constant unemployment rate) and the additional unemployment (even a target inflation rate) that meeting their claim would involve over the next year.

The reasonable assumptions would involve at least the extension of the award to the whole of the industry concerned, at most its acceptance as a general standard. It would also be useful to know whether there was or was not a precedent of problems over recruitment.

Once a simple model was set up there should be no great difficulty in giving the information and making the projections quickly and with a degree of accuracy sufficient to indicate the importance of the likely effects and the relative justification of the claim.

The credibility of the unit's projections would be enhanced if the authorities were committed to certain definite targets, outside the field of wage fixing. Professor James Meade, in his recent Nobel lecture, suggested that an independent monetary authority, should be charged with maintaining a certain national rate of growth of money income, and that wage-fixing institutions should be charged with maintaining full employment while allowing relative wages to change in response to supply and demand.

As a gloss on the latter proposal I would suggest that the business of fixing relative wages, whether by arbitration or otherwise, might be separated from that of fixing the general level of money wages.

This might be accomplished by insisting that each wage contract of any significance be expressed and reported as a percentage of a standard wage, and that the actual money-value of the standard wage be fixed when all the relevant contracts for the year are concluded.

Thus, even if accepted in principle, would not remove the difficulties of pay policy: some combination of market forces, moral pressure, threats and arbitration would be required to prevent the relatively figures of some workers from rising to the detriment of others' real incomes.

But it would give some scope for maintaining recruitment and redressing genuine grievances without jeopardising either full employment or price stability.

Yours faithfully,
ANTHONY CHMIES-ROSS,
Department of Economics,
University of Strathclyde,
Glasgow,
October 4.

From Mr David Somerset
Sir, I have noticed that a new and to me meaningless phrase is continually appearing in print: "our National Heritage". At what point does a possession, either inherited or acquired through one's own personal taste, become "our National Heritage"?

There have recently been many amusing and byzantine articles in the newspapers on this subject, particularly your second leader of October 5, in which Lord Brooke is criticised for selling various of his personal possessions, over the last few years and now for disposing of Warwick Castle to Madame Tussauds.

Anyone who watched the Labour Party Conference will have noted the savagery with which land nationalisation was advocated and adopted as party policy and must realise how bleak are the prospects of maintaining, conserve and their contents against this kind of political future.

Therefore, in the face of these threats who can blame the owners of what are now described by people like Mr Hugh Legat as "our National Heritage" which I maintain are their private and personal possessions, for realising them while they can?

Yours faithfully,
DAVID SOMERSET,
Marborough Fine Art, (London)
Albemarle Street, W1,
October 6.

From Mr G. R. Judd
Sir, Your leader of October 5 appears to give a new meaning to the saying "one law for the rich and another for the poor".

Your criticism of the owner of Warwick Castle suggests that, whereas most of us are free to move house and sell our chattels when we wish, the owner of a heritage house is not, and must act as a caretaker for the state whether or not the house is suitable for habitation, and whether or not he could afford to live in it.

The only alternatives open to the unfortunate owner of an ancient house are either to run it as a commercial enterprise, or to hand it over to the state. Not every owner is suited to running such an enterprise, and moreover not all heritage houses can be made viable when opened to the public, despite the already considerable tax concessions and the grants available.

Should not the hymn read "the poor man in his castle, the rich man at his gate"?

Yours faithfully,
G. R. JUDD,
Strut and Parker,
Hill Street,
Berkely Square, W1.

The Anti Nazi League

From Mr Vernon Bogdanor
Sir, Dr Alderman may well be right (September 20) in his judgement concerning the likely support of National Front support, although the evidence of local and national elections would seem to indicate that the Front has been unable to increase its share of the vote significantly during the past five years.

Selling stolen antiques

From the President of the British Antique Dealers' Association
Sir, I share Mr Thompson's concern about the ever increasing theft of antiques. (The Times, October 9) and would draw attention to the fact that for over 40 years the British Antique Dealers' Association has included in its Members' Handbook, information headed "Purchase of Goods", drawing attention to the very points on which the law makes in its peevishness paragraph.

Members are warned that as a precautionary measure they should require a vendor to sign a receipt bearing the statement "I hereby warrant the above articles to be my own personal property, over which I have full and unconditional right of disposal", the receipt to include the signature and address of the vendor. Members are also advised that this does not completely protect them.

There was held in Paris last year a conference on the problems besetting the antique trade and all other bodies concerned with the ever increasing thefts of antiques and works of art and this conference was set up by the Antique Trade's International Organisation (CIATA) (Confederation Internationale des Negociants en Oeuvres d'Art). As the result of the Conference a lot of research has been done and the BBC is at present preparing a programme on the subject.

I think I can justifiably say that the antique trade's professional organization are already doing what Mr Thompson has suggested.

Yours faithfully,
A. HILL, President,
The British Antique Dealers' Association Ltd.,
20 Rutland Gate, SW7,
October 9.

From Mrs Mary Whitehouse
Sir, Now that I have returned from my Australian/New Zealand tour may I, through the courtesy of your columns, make it clear that my visit was sponsored by the Australian Festival of Light and was not connected with Festival of Light in this country, as has been intimated.

May I also make it clear that the attacks upon my person in Australia were not made by "youths" or "students", as has been stated by sections of the media in Britain, but by political radicals, and militant homosexual and lesbian groups who were organized across Australia to interrupt every mass meeting at which I spoke.

Neither were the "pies" thrown at me, pies at all. They were composed of baked dough, about 10 inches across and filled with shaving cream and red dye. I mention this simply to make it abundantly clear that opposition to my theme of "Child care—not child abuse"—came out from the young, but from those committed to the break up of the family, the importance and the maintenance of which was central to all my speaking.

Yours sincerely,
MARY WHITEHOUSE,
Honorary General Secretary,
National Viewers' and
Listeners' Association,
Ardleigh,
Colchester,
Suffolk,
October 6.

By rail in France

From Mr Adrian Noskiewicz
Sir, I am sorry that Mr Plomley (October 7) is poorer by 40 francs for having failed to buy tickets for his French train tickets. His indignation is understandable but hardly fair.

The brightly coloured machines for "composition" are a prominent feature of every French railway station. The procedure is explained pictorially for those less adept in the French language than Mr Plomley.

A similar system is in operation on certain Swiss trains, the only difference being that tickets have to be "valides" instead of "composés".

I suggest that the idea could be considered by British Rail as a source of useful economies.

Yours faithfully,
ADRIAN NOSKIEWICZ,
Springfield House,
Sandwich,
Kent,
Nottingham,
October 7.

HESSE BRINGS RELIEF TO HERR SCHMIDT

If the Christian Democrats had won control of Hesse in Sunday's Land elections in West Germany the ground would have trembled in Bonn. Herr Schmidt would have suffered a serious loss of authority. His coalition with the Free Democrats would have been in jeopardy. The Christian Democrats, by taking over a traditional Social Democratic stronghold after thirty-three years, would have gained a powerful psychological advantage. Herr Dräger, their leader in Hesse, would have emerged as a powerful new runner for the Chancellorship. And they would have acquired enough votes in the Bundestag (upper house) to block federal legislation.

None of this has happened. The Christian Democrats suffered a very slight drop in their percentage after a steady rise since 1966. The Social Democrats gained one seat at the expense of the Free Democrats. Yet the election was interesting because nobody was confident that this would be the outcome. West German politics are now felt to be so unpredictable that the Social Democrats might be capable of losing in one of their strongest areas. This needs some explaining.

There were local as well as national issues in the campaign. A few years ago the Social Democrats in Hesse were plagued by scandals. People began to feel they had been corrupted by too many years in power. In addition their radical left was alienating not only conservatives but also the traditional working class base of the party. In this atmosphere Herr Dräger was able to raise the Christian Democratic vote from 26 per cent in 1966 to 47 per

cent in 1974—a remarkable achievement. But the new Social Democrat Prime Minister, Herr Börner, who took over in 1976, is a former construction worker who has rallied the working class vote, kept the radicals in their place, and made a new start in cleaning up the Administration.

However, an important factor was certainly the popularity of Herr Schmidt's government in Bonn. The voters of Hesse became aware of how much national responsibility lay in their hands and shrank away from rocking the boat. Probably, too, they were wholly convinced by Herr Dräger, who has been trying hard to shake off his right-wing image and appear as a moderate liberal. More surprising is the relatively good showing of the Free Democrats, who have been suffering in other parts of West Germany from the inroads of the environmentalist "green" parties and also from a certain lack of national identity now that Herr Schmidt's firm rule has made them seem less necessary as a brake on left-wing tendencies in the Social Democratic Party. But the "green" parties in Hesse fell victim to splits and invasions by eccentric radicals. They remain significant for the inchoate protest they represent but they are a long way from forming a viable party.

It remains for the Christian Democrats to examine the collapse of their hopes. If Herr Schmidt were less popular and if they themselves had a more convincing and unified leadership in Bonn they might have won. It is significant, however, that they were not able to extract as much gain as they expected

from the conservative trend in West Germany. They made much play with a recent interview by Herr Klose, the Mayor of Hamburg, who has ceased to exclude radicals from public service, saying that it is better to have twenty communists in public service jobs than 200,000 insecure young people in the nation. The voters of Hesse were not sufficiently shocked by this to turn away from the Social Democrats.

This may give the Christian Democrats something to brood on. But they will be thinking more about their future leadership and structure. Herr Strauss, leader of the Christian Social Union, the semi-autonomous Bavarian wing of the party, has long outlived hopes of forming a national party. He began to do so in the autumn of 1976 but shrank back in the face of violent opposition, particularly from Bavarian colleagues who feared the inroads which a separate Christian Democratic Party would make on their realm. It was then agreed that there would be separation only by consent. More recently it has been agreed that there will be no decision until after further Land elections in the spring. But Herr Strauss, who will almost certainly be elected Prime Minister of Bavaria this coming Sunday, will now be strengthened in his conviction that his own ambitions as well as those of the Christian Democrats would flourish better if the two wings of the party were not cramped by the need for constant compromise, and by a leader, Herr Kohl, whom he does not respect. If he gets his way in the spring the face of West German politics will be profoundly changed.

SWEDEN SEES THE END OF A BRIEF COALITION

It is possible that the new Swedish Prime Minister will be known today, but the choice of personality matters much less than the failure to hold together of the first non-socialist government in Sweden for forty-four years. When this coalition took office in 1976 there were hopes that it might provide new directions in certain fields once it had established itself and the country had become accustomed in the strange spectacle of a government without the Social Democrats. But from the beginning there were difficulties.

This was over an easy coalition. It contained three parties—the Centre Party, the Liberals and the Conservatives—who in many respects were not natural allies but who came together largely because their respective electorates expected them to form a non-socialist government if they got the chance. They had been rivals for votes and they remained suspicious of each other. There were differences on policy and, soon after the coalition took over, the economic difficulties that had been just below the surface became fully apparent.

The economic storm was sheer bad luck. It was caused largely by international trading conditions over which Sweden had no

control, and in so far as the Swedes themselves were to blame it was the failings of the previous government that were more responsible. But when a country has become used to Social Democratic government and apparently unending prosperity, and then both suddenly disappear together it is hard to persuade the general public that this is simply coincidence. Inevitably the government's popularity suffered, and so, too, did the self-confidence of Ministers unused to the pressures and the fluctuating fortunes of office.

Ironically, Sweden's economic condition has now improved. The government has fallen not because of those difficulties but because of its inability to agree on the future development of nuclear power. This was the policy disagreement that mattered most from the start. The Centre Party in general, and its leader, Mr Fälldin, in particular, made their opposition to nuclear power the principal issue at the last election. How much of a part this played in bringing about the change of government is disputed, but it was the issue about which there was most talk and it certainly lost the Social Democrats a number of votes. But neither the Conservatives nor the Liberals shared

this aversion to nuclear power. For a time it seemed that disagreement might prevent the coalition being formed at all. But a temporary compromise was patched up.

Now it has been shown to be no more than temporary. The underlying differences were never resolved. Mr Fälldin and his Centre Party colleagues have left the coalition, and it is more than a replacement for him as Prime Minister that needs to be found. Without the Centre Party it is hard to see that a non-socialist government can be formed with the same degree of balance. The Conservatives and the Liberals are out of sympathy with each other on a number of important policy questions. Indeed, the Liberals are closer in many respects to the Social Democrats. The Liberals could take office on their own, but that would be a very weak minority administration overshadowed by the power of the Social Democrats as the largest single party in Parliament. It seems probable at this point, in fact, that these non-socialist governments will come to be seen as a brief interlude in the long stretch of Social Democratic rule in Sweden—providing for a few years a change of faces, but not of direction.

Social Focus

I asked the barman, at one of Aberdeen's most expensive hotels what he thought North Sea oil had done for his city. He leaned confidentially across the bar, glanced quickly from side to side, lowered his voice and said: "—all." Although at the time I was cautiously sampling something called *Te Beagh nan Eilean* (not a reeking named Eileen but a good specimen of that other Scottish fluid which is distilled rather than refined), I did not mishear.

Supplementary questions soon showed that I had chosen the wrong proposition. Had I asked what oil had done to Aberdeen, perhaps I would not have received such a dusty answer initially.

Good harmonies are better connoisseurs of local humanity than the universally quoted taxi driver. This one was able to summarize the oil-related mythology (and myths in the classical sense as related to truth as smoke is to fire) which has grown in Aberdeen in less than a decade. He told of an Aberdonian villa-owner who had found it worth his while to stay in the same hotel with his wife, his two children and their grandmother for a whole month on full board (about £25 per head per day) while letting his house to an oilman.

Warning to the subject, the barman lapsed into further asperities when he mentioned the problems of newly married couples who had to compete for accommodation with "incumers" as the Scots call these who are prepared to pay £450 per month for a flat and £800 for a house. The cost of buying a house, he maintained, had long since gone out of control, as the most casual stroll past the estate agents' windows in Union Street soon overwhelmingly confirmed.

In many respects, shop prices have at least kept pace. For local people it is merely amusing that "ten-gallon" bats are now on sale in the city.

They are less amused by the fact that the prices of both staple items and luxuries such as an Aberdeen Angus T-bone steak (if you can find one) are often beyond the means of those quietly determined, or obliged, to live as they used to live before the oilmen came.

In the cobbled granite canyons which pass for side streets in Aberdeen, many public houses are now open all day and the restaurants stay open later. Chinese waiters with Scots accents impressively serve Glaswegians, Englishmen and Americans while Indian restaurants produce blistering curries to the apparent delight of nervously adventurous Germans or solemnly celebrating Norwegians.

In Peterhead to the north, men with outlandish accents have been known to produce bales of banknotes to pay cash for sports cars which have taken their fancy, as they come ashore for two

weeks' leave after a similar period of grinding but extremely well-paid work on a North Sea oil platform.

If all goes according to plan, the American oil "capital" of Houston, Texas, will very soon adopt the Grampian Region, of which Aberdeen and Peterhead are now administrative parts, as its "sister-city" — a link in which the emphasis is firmly placed on commerce rather than culture and all the more welcome for that.

Aberdeen has firmly established itself as Britain's oil capital. As a result, its population has risen in four years from 190,000 to about 215,000. It is thus very much smaller than Houston (population three million), but it is also very much older. The stability which only time can confer has so far proved rather more than a match for the brassiness, the money, the here today, gone tomorrow outlook and the underlying impermanence of oil.

The grey old lady of north-east Scotland has hitched up her skirts just a little to let the roustabouts and neophytes, the drillers and the toolpushers pass by, without surrendering her dignity or losing her sense of the value of money. Houston may have things to teach Aberdeen, but the Aberdonians have already found that they can reach the Americans a thing or two.

The problems which oil has brought are good problems, said Mr Sandy Mutch, convenor (chairman) of the Grampian regional council. "Twelve or 15 years ago, we were trying to attract new development without much success. We had a lot of unemployment and emigration. Now many people are coming back because skilled jobs are available. While Mr Mutch did not make light of the problems of housing, rising prices, the strain on local authority finance, the unsettling effect of enormous oil-related wages and even aircraft noise at Dyce airport as it struggles to keep pace with the enormous increase in traffic, he refused to see the oil industry as anything but a benefit overall.

"When oil production passes its peak, it will already have raised standards here permanently and brought lasting benefits. I see no reason at present for concern until well past the year 2000," he said.

Mr Mutch's chief worry was the strain on council finance. There had been an enormous investment in the region's infrastructure because of oil which was far from fully covered by the Government's special grants to assist oil-related industry and services.

Further, as income from rates rose with the number of new industries and buildings brought by oil, so the Government's rate support grant went down, leaving the region up to its eyes in debt with what Mr Mutch regarded as completely inadequate guarantees from the Government. Much ingenuity has been expended, so far with little success, on trying to find new ways of covering this gap. Serious consideration has been given to exacting rates from oil platforms or to see or on the volume of oil (and gas) coming through the pipelines to local terminals.

"I am not complaining," said Mr

More than a match for the North Sea pipedream

After his series last week on specific aspects of the effect on Britain of North Sea oil, Dan van der Vat draws a double conclusion: the oil boom will never be large enough either to save the nation—or to destroy the remote communities caught up in its exploration.

Mutch, a Conservative and staunch opponent of devolution for Scotland. "Oil has proved to be a wonderful opportunity for us. I think the Government's attitude is wrong about local authority finance. We deserve the chance of being able to show a plus sign occasionally."

The process of examining what North Sea oil means to the United Kingdom in social rather than economic terms (though the two are not easily separable) soon began to bear a superficial resemblance to peeling an onion as my inquiries took me from the Treasury in the Sheldons.

The outermost layer is the largest, but also the thinnest and represents the interest of Britain as a whole. Briefly summarised, it temporarily covers the perennial gap in the national balance of payments (and with it, perhaps dangerously, the long-term weaknesses in the national economy) to the tune of an expected £5,500m (at 1977 prices) in 1980 and £8,500m in 1985.

This priority is seen as overriding in Whitehall and immense pressure has been exerted to bring about the earliest possible maximization of production. Only two factors have so far tempered this enthusiasm: the growing unease of local authorities obliged to borrow vast amounts, like Aberdeen, to provide the necessary infrastructure on a basis of pay now, live later; and the growing realization that top-speed production of oil can mean wasting vast quantities of valuable gas inconveniently found in the same places.

The Department of Energy and the Scottish Office naturally want to extract the fullest possible value from gas as well as oil, and the Government is pressing hard for the provision of gas-separation facilities to prevent waste. In the long term, ironically enough, Scotland probably stands to gain more from exploiting the "incidental" gas to the full than from oil itself.

For this, a vast, maudlin and ugly petrochemical complex will have to be built. A tentative plan to site one on the north side of the Firth of Forth has already aroused powerful environmental opposition. Another possibility is the Moray Firth.

For Britain as a whole, oil also means an extra 3 per cent or more on gross domestic product and a handsome annual increase of up to £4,000m in government revenue, both highly useful and not in

be dismissed lightly. But on this basis, the overall benefit to the United Kingdom can hardly be seen as a bonanza or a convincing ground for joining the organization of Petroleum-Exporting Countries (OPEC).

The Government White Paper of March this year drew much criticism, probably because its title, *The Challenge of North Sea Oil*, was badly chosen. Those seeking in its pages a great stroke of imagination revealing how oil would transform the country's fortunes overnight were inevitably disappointed. Increased industrial investment, improved industrial performance, conservation of energy and countering social problems were listed as the four areas on which the oil windfall would be spent.

None of this is dramatic. But the policy of spreading the benefits evenly across society and the economy is not only democratic but also realistic. A tour of the visible manifestations of the oil industry is enough to satisfy anybody's appetite for the spectacular, and probably makes it all too easy to fall into the trap of thinking that something so startlingly enormous and fast-moving must be large enough to save the nation. I was obliged to conclude that this was a dangerous illusion.

The oil terminal at Sullom Voe in the Shetland Isles assaults the unaccustomed eye after a 30-mile drive through some of the wildest country in the British Isles where even the sheep seem to hunch their shoulders against the climate.

Further south in Orkney, the oil terminal at Flotta takes oil by pipeline from the Pict and Claymore fields which lie due eastwards. Even if the effect of oil in Shetland has been distinctly more dramatic, the pipeline to Flotta is still the biggest thing to happen to the Orkneys since the Royal Navy set up shop at Scapa Flow.

The oil fields mainland, oil has had measurable effects all the way along the east coast from Wick in the far north to Great Yarmouth in the south, and even beyond. Among the first extraneous companies to move into Aberdeen were firms from East Anglia with established experience in the related technology of North Sea oil. The first oil to come ashore in Britain arrived on Teesside from the Norwegian sector of the North Sea.

In fact companies all over Britain have benefited directly or indirectly from oil in the shape of more orders, demand for

a wide range of services and the preservation or addition of jobs. But the west coast of Scotland, and the western littoral of Scotland in particular, still await direct benefits from oil. The strange new maps dividing the Continental Shelf into actual or potential exploration concessions still show an all but complete blank to the west of the British Isles.

In an attempt to spread the benefits of oil to industry, the Government decided to concentrate the construction of concrete oil platforms on the west coast of Scotland. Concrete structures were thought a few years ago to be the coming thing, but it is just another reflection of the speed of change in the oil industry that they went out of fashion again before some of the special construction sites even got their first order. At Kishorn on the north-west coast, one of the biggest man-made holes ever dug was used for the construction of one concrete platform. A large workforce was assembled, considerable disruption was caused to local communities, the order was completed, and there has been nothing since. Concrete platforms are more expensive than steel ones, but offer the added facility of oil storage at sea. The growing preference for piping oil ashore, the relative cheapness of steel and technical difficulties with concrete at sea have eclipsed concrete platforms for the time being.

In terms of the environment and the need for employment, Strathclyde probably has the strongest logical claim for accommodating the coming petrochemical industry.

It already has a pipeline which, ironically, now serves exactly the opposite purpose from the one for which it was built. Instead of carrying oil imported from the Gulf of Mexico from west to east across Scotland, it now brings North Sea oil from east to west for export. The line could be used to bring the oil-related gas to feed a petrochemical complex. Confirming all this, an official of the Scottish Office in Edinburgh told me the Government was not optimistic that logic would prevail over economic forces, which appeared to dictate that the Firth of Forth would, public inquiry permitting, house the complex.

Having peeled the onion of its outer layers of the United Kingdom and Scotland in general, we can return to the juicy bits in the middle where the visible effect of oil in social terms is most obvious. Several of these were described in *The Times* last week, and this report began with Aberdeen. Of the multiplicity of changes which oil has brought to the United Kingdom, the effect on its remotest part, the Shetland Isles, seems to exert the most abiding fascination.

The remote islands of the Shetlands are emphasised both by the slowness of the flight from London, usually by Viscount turbo-prop aircraft via Aberdeen or Inverness and by the cost, which at £141.20 for a return ticket, makes it an expedition net to be undertaken casually. If that great entrepreneur, Sir Freddie Laker, turned his attention to the transport opportunities opened up by oil, he would render another public service: you can get to New York and back by Skytrain for £320 less.

You land at Sumburgh at the southern extremity of the principal island, Mainland. The runway projects into the sea. Small aircraft, and helicopters litter the aprons and the airport's traffic jam every lunchtime. The airport's air traffic control is a film-set of early Heathrow, a series of temporary structures already overgrown, with a new terminal being built in the background. Hundreds of oil-workers await transport back to their platforms or southwards for leave. A lunch counter serves execrable food on cardboard plates.

About 25 miles to the north is Lerwick, the Shetland "capital", a pleasant stone town of about 7,000 people, more than a third of the indigenous Shetland population.

By and large the Shetlanders have been well-served by their elected representatives on the Shetland Islands Council and its officials. Armed with a special Act of Parliament, the council has more powers than any local authority on the British mainland to run its own affairs. A new Shetland movement is pressing for a status akin to the Faroes, which have complete home rule.

From the beginning, the local authority took the view that Shetland did not need oil anything like as much as oil needed Shetland and acted accordingly. They were fortunate in that the oil-related boom began, the principal local industries of fishing and knitting were enjoying the peak of a cycle of prosperity. There were already more jobs than people in fill them.

Disasters soon began to appear. Traditional low wages were in the way and national incomes policy, often enforced by construction companies, often enforced by wages. There is little public transport, and milk roundsmen have disappeared altogether. Prices, already high because so much has to be brought from Scotland, rose further.

With commendable zeal, the council has set out to profit as much as it can from oil. A special oil fund was set up, currently managed by a London merchant bank and now standing at £7m. The interest is used for special winter band-aids to pensioners, to alleviate deprivation, to improve the social and economic infrastructure, to minimize disruption and to preserve traditional industries for the post-oil era.

In Aberdeen jibes at the financial burden imposed on its public finances by oil-related investment, the scale of fiscal disruption in Shetland, given its indigenous population of only 20,000, is breathtaking. When Sullom Voe comes into operation, rates income will double to at least £12m a year, a 50m of that will go on services and loans alike. The island is investing £100m in Sullom Voe, where it will operate the port, at a profit naturally if it can.

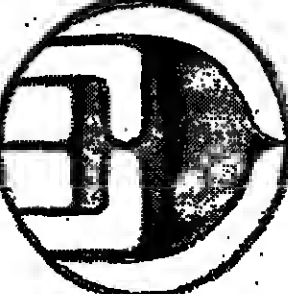
North Sea oil may not be the salvation of the nation, but it is very large indeed. It has signally failed to turn the north of Scotland into a barren Texas. The observer is left with a feeling of respect for the underlying stability of remote communities which can take a phenomenon on this scale in their stride and by and large absorb it.

Generous Malaysians



In Malaysia we have a tradition of giving. Open with gold. Mas is Malay for Gold. Mas, the Aurine of Malaysia, with a tradition of generous giving. Golden service. Malaysia's gift to the travellers of the world.

mas
A gift of Gold.
malaysian airline system



Bangkok, B.S. Bagawan, Frankfurt, Haadly, Hong Kong, Jakarta, Jeddah, Kuala Lumpur, Kuwait, London, Madras, Manila, Medan, Melbourne, Perth, Singapore, Sydney, Taipei, Tokyo and 34 destinations within Malaysia.
Reservations Telephone Nos. 01-223 9391/4 or ask your travel agent for details.

مسك من الاصل

Law Report October 9 1978

Lord Rothermere to get damages for libel

Harmsworth v. Times Newspapers Ltd and Others
Before Mr Justice Tord Evans
A substantial sum is to be paid by way of damages to Lord Rothermere, who as the Hon Vere Harmsworth was chairman and chief executive of Associated Newspapers Group Ltd, over an article in *The Sunday Times* under the headline "Trafalgar House shuns Daily Mail".

The defendants were *Times Newspapers Ltd*, publishers of *The Sunday Times*; Mr Harold Evans, the editor; and Mr Kenneth Fleet, editor of the paper's Business News section.

Mr Peter Bowser, QC, for the plaintiff, in a statement in open court, said that the article, written by Mr Fleet and published on the front page of *The Sunday Times* Business News on July 3, 1977, traced the recent history, and assessed the implications, of negotiations which culminated in the successful Trafalgar House bid for Beaverbrook Newspapers two days before the general election.

The composition of the management philosophy of Associated Newspapers Group Ltd had been a time of waiting for that group to die, and that the failure of Mr Harmsworth to acquire it was due to his inability to reach a firm decision. The plaintiff did not accept that either of those conclusions was justified and he accordingly commenced the present proceedings.

The defendants now recognized that their statements of which Mr Harmsworth complained were ill founded. They had agreed to pay the plaintiff a substantial sum by way of damages and to indemnify him as to his costs. In the circumstances they were in court by their counsel to express their sincere regret to Mr Harmsworth for the distress caused to him.

Mr Desmond Browne, for the defendants, said although the statements complained of were based on information which at the time the defendants had no reason to doubt, they accepted that the policy of Mr Harmsworth had always been and would continue to be highly competitive irrespective of the fortunes of other newspaper groups. So far as the negotiations with Beaverbrook Newspapers were concerned, they accepted that Mr Harmsworth did in fact reach a firm decision at the relevant time. Subject to that, they engaged and associated themselves with all that had been said and repeated their earlier published apology to the plaintiff as a result of their report.

The record was withdrawn by leave.

Solicitors: Oswald Hickson, Collier & Co., Theodore Goddard & Co.

Employment Appeal Tribunal

Dismissal for refusal to join union not unfair

Beaumont v. Libby McNeill & Libby Ltd
Before Mr Justice Slynn, President, Mr M. L. Clement-Jones and Mr T. H. Goff.
A maintenance electrician who was dismissed for refusing to join the Transport and General Workers' Union in spite of a closed shop agreement, was held to have been fairly dismissed and could not rely on the fact that under the legislation in force when he was first employed he had the right to choose which union to join.

The Employment Appeal Tribunal dismissed an appeal by Mr Kevin Beaumont from the dismissal by a majority of industrial tribunal last March of his complaint of unfair dismissal against his employers, Libby McNeill and Libby Ltd, food manufacturers, of Milnthorpe, Cumbria.

The Trade Union and Labour Relations Act, 1974, Schedule 1, paragraph 6 (5) provides: "Dismissal of an employee by an employer shall be regarded as fair for the purposes of this Schedule if (a) it is the practice, in accordance with a membership agreement for all the employees, to belong to a specified independent trade union... and (b) the reason for the dismissal was that the employee was not a member of the specified union... or had refused... to become a member..."

Mr A. Mott, legal officer, Electrical, Electronic and Telecommunications (Plumbing) Union, for Mr Beaumont; Mr John Jarvis for the employers.

MR JUSTICE SLYNN said that Mr Beaumont, who was a member of the EETPU, had been dismissed because he refused to join the "specified" union, which was essentially one between the two unions.

Mr Beaumont began working for the company as a maintenance electrician in February, 1974, when the Industrial Relations Act, 1971, was in force. From July, 1972, there had been a recognition agreement between the IGWU and the company. In January, 1978, after the enactment of the Trade Union and Labour Relations Act, 1974, there was a closed shop agreement whereby all employees who had joined the company since July, 1972, were obliged to be members of the IGWU. Mr Beaumont refused to join and was dismissed.

Paragraph 6(5) of Schedule 1 to the 1974 Act provided that a dismissal could be held to be unfair where there was a closed shop agreement, by a subsequent amendment the definition of union membership agreement "in section 30 of the Act was changed from including membership of a union party to the agreement or of another 'specified' trade union."

Mr Beaumont contended that a closed shop agreement made in 1976 could not apply to an employee employed in 1974. Alternatively, he claimed that the EETPU was an "appropriate" union within section 30 of the 1974 Act and the subsequent amendment to the "specified" could not apply retrospectively. He relied on his right under the Industrial Relations Act, 1971, to choose whether or not to belong to a particular union.

The 1974 Act had made a substantive change in the law and it clearly applied to Mr Beaumont. The EETPU was not a "specified" union for the purpose of the closed shop agreement. It was no longer enough to say it was an "appropriate" union. The appeal would be dismissed.

Solicitors: Porter & Co.

Company to pay costs
TVR Engineering Ltd v. Johnson
An appellant company which withdrew its appeal to the Employment Appeal Tribunal only nine days before the date fixed for the hearing, ordered to pay the respondent's costs.

MR JUSTICE SLYNN, sitting in the Appeal Tribunal with Mr R. J. W. Jones and Mr J. W. Jones, said that in December, 1977, an industrial tribunal held that the company, TVR Engineering Ltd, had dismissed an employee, Mr W. J. Johnson, on February 10, 1978, the company appealed and on April 19 notes of evidence were taken at an industrial tribunal. The hearing date was set for July 21. On July 12 the company withdrew its appeal.

The company contended that costs should only be awarded against it if the proceedings were unnecessary, improper or vexatious: rule 21(1) of the Employment Appeal Tribunal Rules, 1976.

The Appeal Tribunal would not say that the appeal was unnecessary or improper or vexatious. But the nearer the trial became the greater was the chance that a respondent would incur costs. Since the notes of evidence were received in mid-April the company had had plenty of time to decide whether or not to appeal.

Parties should not be discouraged from withdrawing appeals, but it was important that an appeal should be withdrawn within a reasonable time and not left until a short time before the hearing. There had been an unnecessary delay in communicating the company's decision to withdraw the appeal and it would pay the employee's costs after June 15, 1978.

Petitioner's duty to attend on appointed day

All concerned were reminded by Mr Justice Brightman in the Companies Court of the importance of complying with Rule 35 of the Companies (Winding Up) Rules, 1949, which requires the petitioner or his solicitor to attend before the registrar on the appointed day and to satisfy him that the papers are in order.

That day is invariably the Monday before the petition is due to be heard (this Lordship said). Under the current practice it is not less than five weeks after the petition has been presented.

Too frequently the petitioner or his solicitor does not attend on the appointed day, sometimes not until the Friday before the petition is due to be heard, so that the registrar has little time to check the papers; sometimes not until the day the petition is due to be heard, so that the registrar has no time at all.

Such failure to comply with the rules increases the burden on the Companies Registry and impedes the work of the Companies Court.

Attention was drawn to this problem by judges of the Companies Court in 1975 and 1977: see *Palmer's Company Law*, vol. 3, paras H 1202 and H 1205.

At the present moment there are not less than 780 winding-up petitions set down for hearing this term. Plainly there is no room for any avoidable non-compliance with the time scale laid down by the rules.

The purpose of this statement is to remind all concerned once again that, save in exceptional circumstances, the penalty for failure to attend before the registrar as required by Rule 35, with the papers substantially in proper order, is that the petition will be summarily struck out—required by the rule.

His Lordship said that his statement was made after consultation with the Vice-Chancellor.

Judge in secrets trial reverses a ruling

By Craig Seton
Mr Justice Mans-Jones, presiding in the secrets trial at the Central Criminal Court, yesterday reversed a ruling made on Friday. He said that in future letters and figures rather than names should be used in open court when references were made to signals and intelligence units and their locations.

His ruling on Friday that an overseas signals intelligence unit could be named in open court led to an immediate request by the Crown for an adjournment. It was followed by a hearing in camera for legal submissions, which continued when the second week of the trial started yesterday.

The court returned to open session after more than an hour and the judge told the jury of his decision. He said it would be necessary to refer to units as A, B, C and their locations as 2, 3 and so on, although the jury would have a list giving the full information.

After the ruling defence counsel continued their examination of Major Frederick Everson, who had been a security officer at a unit referred to as A at location 1.

On trial are Duncan Campbell, aged 26, a journalist with the New Statesman, Crispin Aubrey, aged 32, a writer with the magazine Time Out, and John Berry, aged 34, a former member of the Intelligence Corps. They have pleaded not guilty to the total of eight charges under section 1 and 2 of the Official Secrets Act concerning communicating, obtaining and receiving information and abetting offences.

After Major Everson had acknowledged references to service magazines to a squadron at the unit, he told Mr Stuart Shilton, QC, for the defence of Mr Berry that he continued to confirm questions put to him "the whole picture concerning this unit will emerge".

The trial continues today.

City Offices
Hampton & Sons

01-236 7831

Stock Exchange Prices Pay hopes rise

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings Began, Oct. 2. Dealings End, Oct. 13. Contango Day, Oct. 16. Settlement Day, Oct. 20.
 5 Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days

§ Forward bargains are permitted no two previous days

[illegible]

PLAINING
THE COMPLETE
CONSTRUCTION
SERVICE

THE TIMES BUSINESS NEWS

سكز لمن لا يملك

Can Rhodesia's
industry
survive white
emigration? P19

Latest wholesale prices suggest steady inflation rate for a time

Caroline Aldis

Wholesale price figures published yesterday suggest that the rate of inflation will remain steady for the next few months, though wholesale prices are likely to show some acceleration next month.

Despite the strength of sterling last month there was a per cent rise in industry's material costs in September, contrary to the expectation that they would fall.

The increase in raw materials came after a 1 per cent drop in August. In both August and July, each of last month's rise was due to a sharp increase in oil prices.

Although the metal has only tiny weight in the index for industry's costs the rise in oil was large enough to have a significant impact on last month's figures. The disruption of production in Zaire was the cause of the increase.

The rise in factory gate prices last month was slightly less than in July and August, as August figures have now been revised upwards so that the year-on-year rate of increase is put at 7.1 per cent. In September's annual rise in output prices was also 7.1 per cent. However, the encouraging low wholesale price last month will probably be followed by worse news for October.

Raw material costs are likely to continue upwards as world commodity prices—especially of oil—pick up from earlier depressed levels. The continued strength of the pound this month is unlikely to offset the rise in the index is likely to accelerate.

Earnings rose by 14.1 per cent year to year—a considerable acceleration from the 8.1 per cent rise during Phase Two. So far this has not been reflected in wholesale or retail price inflation. However, October's wholesale prices will probably show a slight increase from the 7.1 per cent year-on-year rise last month.

As the higher raw material costs feed through, a further acceleration in output prices is expected. But there is no sign of a big jump in inflation for the next few months. After that much will depend on the outcome of the present wage round.

The dollar's fall has been a big help in keeping down Britain's inflation rate, chiefly because of its effect on the sterling price of oil. Falling prices for oil and oil products have had a significant impact on both the input and output indices for wholesale prices.

Over the past year raw material costs have fluctuated substantially. In September they were 1 per cent below their level of a year ago.

In the last three months the cost of raw materials for manufacturing industries other than food, drink and tobacco has dropped by 2.1 per cent.

There was a sharp increase in food costs in September, which nearly wiped out the falls of the two previous months. Wide-spread price rises led to a 1.1 per cent increase in the food index in September. Dearest fish, pigs and coffee had the biggest impact.

There is evidence that profits are being squeezed as earnings increases outstrip prices. Manufacturers appear to be absorbing some of the increased wage costs rather than passing them on to consumers.

Factory gate prices for food and non-food industries have been rising at the same rate recently. Both indices show a 1 per cent rise in September and a 1.1 per cent rise in the latest three months.

Table, page 18

Opec may link crude price to end product

Vienna, Oct. 9.—Officials of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries today announced that the oil cartel is likely to link the price of crude oil to the sale of finished products if industrial countries obstruct petroleum ventures in member states.

The warning first came in a note speech by Sheikh Ali al-Sabah, the Kuwaiti Minister of Oil, who opened a three-day Opec seminar on "downstream operations in Opec member countries: prospects and problems". It was reiterated in a speech by General Ali Jaidah, the Opec Secretary-General.

In his address, the minister emphasized that through market restrictions and claims of "capacity" industrialized countries kept discouraging Opec countries—and even restricting them—from "going upstream".

He cited as impediments imposed by the advanced countries: high cost of licences toward Opec countries; and the inability to purchase licences, and knowledge, which means infinite price.

He added: "Access of the

finished products to the markets of the industrialized countries is another obstacle to the development of downstream petroleum industries.

"Not only are there quantitative quotas, but the tariffs are high enough to wipe out any refining margins, and even turn a healthy profit situation into a losing proposition. The difference in taxation between product and crude oil is about 40 cents in the United States, 60-70 cents in Europe and as much as \$1.50 in Japan."

He added: "These restrictions and attitudes will not be specifically accepted by Opec. In fact, it falls within the framework of the Opec ministerial strategy committee to look into the long-term implications of such practices."

"It may not be long before the removal of such practices becomes a condition of supply of crude oil."

But he went on: "It would be much better if these problems were resolved through dialogue rather than confrontation."

General Jaidah said: "We must be allowed reasonable access to the market for finished and semi-finished products."

Brussels spokesman, page 18

'Prices panel to investigate Thermos

Derek Harris

Thermos, a subsidiary of the United States-based King-Seelye, which is market leader in its sector in the United Kingdom, is to have its pricing investigated by the Price Commission.

The line of the inquiry looks likely to be how far Thermos is price leader in the range of thermos ware, including flasks,

food jars, ice chests and insulated jugs and mugs. Thermos holds around 70 per cent of the market with Aladdin Industries, the second largest supplier.

Thermos last raised its prices by about 9 per cent last January and has been discussing whether to make a further increase because of the rising costs of labour and materials.

Thermos is sufficiently small

in turnover terms not to have to pre-notify increases but the Commission monitors non-notified price rises and has powers to investigate them.

The effect of the investigation is to freeze Thermos's prices for three months unless the company can justify an interim increase on grounds of safeguarding minimum profit levels.

The Times index: 224.08 + 1.79
The FT index: 510.2 + 7.2

THE POUND

	Bank	Bank
	buys	sells
Australia \$	1.77	1.71
Austria Sch	28.75	26.75
Belgium Fr	62.25	61.75
Canada \$	2.39	2.32
Denmark Kr	10.83	10.33
Finland Mk	8.23	7.88
France Fr	8.77	8.37
Germany Dm	3.94	3.72
Greece Dr	72.50	69.50
Hongkong \$	9.60	9.10
Italy L	167.00	159.00
Norway Kr	39.50	37.00
Netherlands Gld	4.27	4.04
Portugal Esc	10.33	9.88
Spain Ptas	92.50	87.50
Switzerland Fr	2.10	1.95
Sweden Kr	148.75	141.75
Switzerland Fr	8.98	8.58
Switzerland Fr	3.32	3.10
US \$	2.03	1.97
Yugoslavia Ddr	41.75	39.00

Rate for gold and silver denominated bank notes only, as supplied by the Bank of England. Includes banknotes and other foreign currency reserves.

Low the markets moved

Index	10p to 165p
Shares	7p to 335p
Day	18p to 475p
Brown	6p to 94p
Rio	8p to 184p
Way	10p to 255p
Costain	4p to 164p
Il	5p to 347p
ONS	6p to 336p

Index	10p to 165p
Am Corps	21p to 356p
British	25p to 752p
St Na Finance	10p to 752p

Oil moved ahead. Landed securities fell slightly. The premium 81 per cent (effective rate 37.96 per cent). The effective exchange rate index is at 62.7.

Other pages

Using share prices	16
Letters to the Editor	18
Financial Editor	19
Business Editor	19

Financial news	20
Market reports	20
Business appointments	20
Base rate table	20
Unit trust prices	21
Bank Base Rates Table	21

Annual Statements	21
MFI Furniture Centre	21
Interim Statements	21
Lesney Products	19
Marchwiel Ltd	17

Crucial decisions must be taken soon on new model programme for eighties to counter threat by Americans BL criticized by Renault over delays in engines deal

By Clifford Webb

Renault may be forced to seek a new European partner if British Leyland continues to drag its feet over proposals for multi-million pound joint ventures to manufacture engines and gearboxes.

The state-controlled French group is becoming increasingly worried about the delay which will affect the new model programme of both companies for the next 20 years.

Last night's sources close to the talks quoted a senior Renault executive as saying: "We were making rapid progress until the end of last year. But since Mr Edwards took over the chairmanship of BL we seem to have run into one delay after another. But crucial decisions must be made soon. Delays only help the Americans."

A spokesman at BL's London headquarters said: "We are not dragging our feet in talks on collaborative ventures with Renault. The company stated recently that talks were continuing on major component exchange. But so far none of the proposals made by BL has been acceptable to Renault."

Negotiations have not been dropped to make way for divisional plans, and we repeat that several proposals are still being examined."

Unofficially BL has let it be known that Mr Edwards is annoyed with attempts to pressure him into making early decisions. Company sources suggest that the French have made a number of far-reaching

changes in their original proposals which require detailed investigation and rethinking.

Renault took the initiative two years ago when Mr Bernard Hanon, deputy managing director, and the head of its automotive division, came to London to see Lord Ryder, then chairman of the National Enterprise Board. He told the man with ultimate responsibility for BL that Renault was becoming increasingly worried about American plans for Europe.

In his view, the oil crisis of 1973 and the resultant swing in Detroit towards smaller and more European-type cars, spelled danger for European car makers.

By the late 1980s the American giants would be mass producing small cars in such highly automated, cost-effective plants that they could, and would be sold throughout the world in very large numbers. Even the Japanese market would not be able to withstand such a concerted attack.

Renault's solution made it imperative for the French and British state-owned groups to join forces not only in manufacturing ventures but also in world-wide marketing.

Simply, their volumes were just not big enough to enable them to invest hundreds of millions of pounds to develop and manufacture one new engine and up to £100m for one new gearbox.

It was estimated for instance that to replace the long-running Morris "A" series engine—from



Mr Alex Park, brought into talks and became enthusiastic.

£500 to £1000—and to manufacture it at the rate of 20,000 engines a week, would cost BL between £400m and £500m.

Production of this magnitude for a single engine is beyond the capabilities or requirements of BL, but it is the target which European car makers must achieve if they are to remain competitive in the middle 1980s.

Mr Alex Park, later replaced as chief executive by Mr Edwards, was brought into the talks, and according to colleagues quickly became an enthusiastic supporter.

In fact, he knew that similar moves were already being made by some of his senior colleagues. It is

known that Mr Alan Edes, then Leyland's director of product planning, and Mr Spencer King, the group's brilliant chief engineer, had submitted similar proposals for partnership deals with European companies. Both chose Renault as the ideal partner.

Mr Park set up four working parties to get together with opposite numbers in Paris: engineering under Mr King, product planning Mr Edes, financial, business and legal, Mr Colin Daniel, and overseas marketing Mr David Andrews.

According to participants it quickly became apparent that Renault was prepared to consider anything. At one point it was even suggested that as a short-term measure, until the new LC10 medium family saloon could be launched in 1982, BL should manufacture the Renault 18.

This new 1400cc to 1600cc saloon was launched in France in March and is planned to become one of Renault's biggest volume models. This proposal was quashed as not being acceptable to the British unions or to public opinion in general.

It has been widely reported that BL's most pressing need was a Renault gearbox to replace its much criticized older designs. In fact, it was the French who were interested in the new five-speed gearbox fitted to the Rover 3500.

They were keen to learn more about BL's "Project T"—a

replacement gearbox for the Austin Morris range of family sedans. It was well advanced and could be designed for use in both company's future model ranges. Joint manufacturing and/or joint engineering offered enormous savings.

Leyland's experts reported that one of the most important contributions from Renault could be in the field of product engineering. They were lavish in their praise of the French company's leadership in factory floor layout. In addition, its control of the relationship of investment to production capacity was much more cost effective than BL's.

By late last year, the detailed talks had reached the point where both sides were very optimistic that concrete deals would be signed soon. In fact, some proposals for joint manufacturing and licensing details covering engines and gearboxes were incorporated into their seven-year business plans.

That optimism has now disappeared, and one of the reasons is said to be Mr Edwards's creation of the separate car companies—Austin Morris and Jaguar Rover Triumph.

The newly created management teams are said to be so enamoured of their new found freedom from the central control, which "blighted" decision-making under the pre-Edwards regime that they are busily competing with each other for investment to do things their own way.

350 jobs to go at yard on Teesside

A quarter of the 1,400 workers at Smith's Dock, the Teesside shipyard group, are to be made redundant because the yard is rapidly running out of work.

Further cutbacks are inevitable unless the yard, which is part of British Shipbuilders, is able to obtain new orders.

Redundancy notices were served yesterday on 370 steel and ancillary workers at the company's Harton Rd yard.

In a statement, the company said it hoped some of the men—likely to be about fifty—would be reassigned to the South Bank yard on the opposite bank of the Tees. The men are all members of either the Amalgamated Society of Boiler Makers or the Transport and General Workers' Union.

Mr Grant Milne, the company's planning and development director, said: "Officials of the unions concerned and yard shop stewards have been advised of the position."

British Shipbuilders will call for voluntary redundancies among the workers affected and severance payments will be made under the terms of the special redundancy scheme established for the shipbuilding industry.

Payments under the scheme provide for higher-than-statutory redundancy terms linked to age and length of service in the industry.

Mr Milne said that the company would consult fully with the unions on how best to minimize the effects of the situation and every effort would be made to keep all employees informed of the position as it developed.

Workers at the company's South Bank yard will escape any immediate threat of being laid off. The yard is building three ships as part of the controversial £115m shipbuilding deal with Poland.

The ships being built on the Tees were originally earmarked for the Swan Hunter Group on Tyneside, but the failure of workers there to provide guarantees of continued production led to the loss of the contracts.

Fraud inquiry likely on Schrader accounts

By Bryan Appleyard

Glasgow Fraud Squad is likely to be involved within a month or two in the affair of the "serious irregularities" in the accounts of Schrader Mitchell & Weir, subsidiary of the Barrow Hepburn and Leith Chemicals group.

The independent investigation by Whitley Murray, accountants which began at the end of March, is expected to be completed within four to six weeks. It is understood that the company has notified the police of the investigation but the police are not planning to take any active role until its completion.

On Friday, Mann Judd, Barrow's directors, announced their resignation and they have been replaced by Price Waterhouse. Mann Judd, audited both the parent company's figures and those of Schrader and received a clean bill of £17,000.

Mann Judd's qualified Barrow's last annual accounts, stating that they could not say they gave a true and fair view because it was not clear that the provision of £945,000 for losses at Schrader was adequate. Whitley Murray has since concluded that £42m is likely to be involved.

Yesterday Mann Judd said they did not believe there was any valid case against them arising from the affair but they felt it was in the interests of the company to have a fresh approach. They said criticisms of the auditors could come from shareholders and it was mutually agreed they should stand down.

Professor Roland Smith, chairman of Barrow Hepburn, has been unavailable for comment but he did say in his last annual statement that the irregularities "could involve fraud".

The irregularities go back three or four years at least and involve trading in hides. Company officials say the group are also involved.

Confusion once again appears to reign supreme here, as so often happens in the final week of a Congressional term. And yet, as has happened many times before, there is just a chance that what is a couple of days' delay in the scheduled ending of this Congressional session on Saturday.

Confusion once again appears to reign supreme here, as so often happens in the final week of a Congressional term. And yet, as has happened many times before, there is just a chance that what is a couple of days' delay in the scheduled ending of this Congressional session on Saturday.

EEC sets out rules for mergers

From Michael Horvath

EEC ministers of justice, meeting here today, approved a directive setting out common rules for the merger of public limited liability companies in the Community. Member states have three years in which to enact the rules into national law.

The main purpose of the directive is to establish an equivalent level of protection throughout the Community for the associates, creditors and employees of the companies involved in mergers.

An earlier directive, adopted last year, dealt specifically with the protection of the rights of workers.

Among other things, the new directive allows companies to transfer their assets for up to six months after a merger has occurred. This is in line with current British practice.

At British insistence, the directive allows companies to transfer their assets for up to six months after a merger has occurred. This is in line with current British practice.

At British insistence, the directive allows companies to transfer their assets for up to six months after a merger has occurred. This is in line with current British practice.

Mitsubishi move in Australia

Mitsubishi Motor Corporation has reached an agreement to help Chrysler Australia reconstruct its business, a Mitsubishi spokesman said in Tokyo.

But the spokesman could not confirm a report in the Japanese press that Mitsubishi had decided to acquire a 30 to 35 per cent stake in Chrysler Australia.

But the spokesman could not confirm a report in the Japanese press that Mitsubishi had decided to acquire a 30 to 35 per cent stake in Chrysler Australia.

But the spokesman could not confirm a report in the Japanese press that Mitsubishi had decided to acquire a 30 to 35 per cent stake in Chrysler Australia.

Bankers discuss Europe money system

Brussels, Oct. 9.—The committee of European Economic Community central bank governors discussed various aspects of a European Monetary System (EMS) which is to stabilize foreign exchange rates in Europe.

They met behind closed doors at Banque Nationale de Belgique, the Belgian central bank, in Brussels.

Bank officials would say only that the EMS ranked prominently on the meeting's agenda.

A highly confidential report from a group of experts which has been meeting in Basel during the past two months is reported to have been discussed. Details were not given.

Essentially, financial sources

Tax and energy bill problems for Mr Carter

End-of-term confusion reigns for Congress

It is now impossible to predict the final form of American energy and tax legislation, despite months of debate and the scheduled ending of this Congressional session on Saturday.

Confusion once again appears to reign supreme here, as so often happens in the final week of a Congressional term. And yet, as has happened many times before, there is just a chance that what is a couple of days' delay in the scheduled ending of this Congressional session on Saturday.

Confusion once again appears to reign supreme here, as so often happens in the final week of a Congressional term. And yet, as has happened many times before, there is just a chance that what is a couple of days' delay in the scheduled ending of this Congressional session on Saturday.

Confusion once again appears to reign supreme here, as so often happens in the final week of a Congressional term. And yet, as has happened many times before, there is just a chance that what is a couple of days' delay in the scheduled ending of this Congressional session on Saturday.

Confusion once again appears to reign supreme here, as so often happens in the final week of a Congressional term. And yet, as has happened many times before, there is just a chance that what is a couple of days' delay in the scheduled ending of this Congressional session on Saturday.

Confusion once again appears to reign supreme here, as so often happens in the final week of a Congressional term. And yet, as has happened many times before, there is just a chance that what is a couple of days' delay in the scheduled ending of this Congressional session on Saturday.

Confusion once again appears to reign supreme here, as so often happens in the final week of a Congressional term. And yet, as has happened many times before, there is just a chance that what is a couple of days' delay in the scheduled ending of this Congressional session on Saturday.

Confusion once again appears to reign supreme here, as so often happens in the final week of a Congressional term. And yet, as has happened many times before, there is just a chance that what is a couple of days' delay in the scheduled ending of this Congressional session on Saturday.

Confusion once again appears to reign supreme here, as so often happens in the final week of a Congressional term. And yet, as has happened many times before, there is just a chance that what is a couple of days' delay in the scheduled ending of this Congressional session on Saturday.

Confusion once again appears to reign supreme here, as so often happens in the final week of a Congressional term. And yet, as has happened many times before, there is just a chance that what is a couple of days' delay in the scheduled ending of this Congressional session on Saturday.

NEDC 'cautiously optimistic' on Britain's trade performance

Cautious optimism about Britain's trade performance was expressed at a meeting of the National Economic Development Council yesterday.

In a memorandum reviewing the ratio of exports and imports since 1970, Mr Edmund Dell, Secretary of State for Trade, said the rise in the overall import penetration of manufacturing industry had been broadly matched by an increase in the export sales ratio.

He said, however, that the general picture masked wide movements in the performance of individual groups, with particularly favourable trends in food and chemicals and adverse ones in vehicles, electrical consumer goods and iron and steel.

A further note of caution was injected by Mr Geoffrey Chandler, the director general of the National Economic Development Office, who pointed out that a number of important factors had contributed to recent improve-

ments. Exports had been aided by the movements in currency exchange rates, while imports had been depressed by the recession in the British economy.

Reviewing the effectiveness of the industrial strategy, Mr Chandler said that the effort needed to be sustained over several years. "If one expects statistical improvement soon, this can lead to disappointment." Cyclical developments and special factors relating to individual sectors make the interpretation of short term figures uncertain, but NEDO's sector working parties are at present setting up systems for monitoring imports and will make their first reports on this point at the end of the year.

Import penetration in many sectors is still unacceptably high. Estimates already compiled in 69 sectors and sub-sectors show that in six imports represent 60 per cent of United Kingdom sales; in 21, imports account for 31 to 60 per cent, and in 42, imports are 30 per cent or less.

Only in a minority of cases are the sector working parties aiming at marked changes, for instance, a reduction from 77 per cent to 49 per cent in imports' share of the fridge freezer market. Most of the objectives involve less strident changes—reducing import penetration by 10 per cent, or less—or preventing any deterioration.

Trade union, industrialist and Government representatives agreed at the meeting that blanket import controls did not offer a solution to import penetration. Sir John Morison, Director General of the Confederation of British Industry, said that import controls would have counter-productive results, and would merely create a "siege economy".

Mr Len Murray, general secretary of the Trades Union Congress, also spoke against controls on a blanket basis.

MARCHWIEL LIMITED Interim Report 1978

	Six months to 30.4.78	Six months to 30.4.77	Year ended 31.12.77
	Unaudited	Unaudited	Audited
Group Turnover	£73,975	£82,853	£168,664
Net Profit before Tax	£5,230	£5,390	£13,385
Net Profit after Tax	3,086	3,430	8,216
Proposed Interim Dividend	2p		
Anticipated Final Dividend	3p		

See below

Turnover has fallen in the first half of this year compared with the same six months last year, due mainly to a lower level of activity overseas and poor weather at home, but it should pick up well in the second half. Profit in the same period shows a small decrease compared to the corresponding time last year, but it is not expected that the year will be greatly different from last time when the full results are known.

At home a reasonable level of contract activity is being maintained, but recently margins have not continued to improve as much as we had hoped. Overseas it is very difficult to obtain profitable contracts and in a number of cases, payment for work carried out remains unsatisfactory.

Fortunately, although one civil engineering contract at home is making a large loss, a number of settlements have been concluded on old contracts which have helped income this year and will, hopefully, also make a significant contribution to next year.

Other companies in the Group are generally performing very well and an increasingly important contribution is expected from them.

The Directors have declared an interim dividend of 2p per share and, assuming the results for the year are as anticipated, intend to pay a final dividend of 3p per share, making a total for the year of 5p per share. This is in accordance with the forecast made in connection with the recent reconstruction of the Group. As a result of this, shareholders, as well as receiving preference shares, have doubled their holding of ordinary shares in the Group and the interim dividend now declared, represents a higher distribution to shareholders than we were allowed to make for the whole of last year.

Sir Alfred McAlpine
Group of Companies

September car registrations reach new peak and imports take larger share of market

manage the exchange rate, and we should here to accept central coordination of monetary targets, public expenditure levels and interest rates.

Mr. Leech may well be right in saying that the development is all of a piece with the movement already made towards European unity. But are others quite so happy that European unity will mean, in practice, not only emergency in a greater German economy?

Yours faithfully,
BRYAN GOULD,
House of Commons,
London.
SW1A 0AA.
October 3.

Spanish tax liability still obscure

Tory policy towards small businesses

From Mrs J. Neill
Sir, Snr. Vall's letter tod
appears to leave unanswer
the "discriminatory" criticis
by Mr Keonedy (October)
and still leaves obscure t
liability, apparently with
exemption of the "crimi

who is a full taxpayer in I
own country of residence, ow
a property in Spain and so co
tributes to the Spanish exch
quer without in any way bei
a drain on Spanish resource
to Britain, if a tax becom
due, I expect to receive

requisite form and demand from the Taxation Officials before the final date of payment to hear about it through the columns of any newspaper, be it *The Times* or *Spain Gazette*. I am sure if a similar new tax became payable

Spanish nationals who are tourists in this country, the same courtesy of officialdom would be extended to them. I left to be discovered by pure chance.

Yours faithfully,
JILL NEILL.

"Mooksparb",
193 Russell Road,
Moseley,
Birmingham,
B13 8RR,
October 5.

Politicians creation

From Mr R. M. B. Heseltine
Sir, Only double-dealing politicians could conceive of this idea (reported by you).

Price Commission and the Monopolies and Mergers Commission to implement an anti-merger policy.

Yours sincerely,
R. M. H. HESELTINE,
 29 Gibson Square,
 London, W.1.

APPOINTMENTS
ON PAGE 6

SECRETARIAL

SECRETARY

EDUCATIONAL PUBLISHING

To help busy editorial
team producing materials for
primary school teachers follow

estling and varied work. Opportunity to learn editorial skills. Shorthand, typing, bookkeeping and organizational skills are essential. Salary \$5,000 p.a. 4 weeks' holiday.

Write.
Miss S. Kane.
Evans & Others Ltd.
Montague House
Rusell Square, W.C1B 3EX.

World's oil 'may last

**SECRETARY TO
DIRECTOR GENERAL.**
Pleasant, efficient, person who
enjoys dealing with people
required for Communists' Club.
Friendly, sunny office
overlooking Green Park. 3 hrs.
to four years' experience essential.
Hours 10.30-4.30. Lmk

provided, 23,500.
Please contact
Mrs. Milne
493 5051 ext. 132

TOP AUDIO
64 500

RUSTY SHORTHAND
Our client, a well established
firm of accountants are looking
for an excellent audio secret-
ary to work with one of their
best brains. Legal experience
is not necessary.
Telephone: 01-283 0412
TARGA RECRUITMENT

SECRETARY
\$1,000 p.a. + many benefits
at Head Office of major inter-
national company in West End
Shorthand please. Please head
mor. in.

DON'T SPEAK JUST LISTEN

ADVERTISING

Secretary to Maoaging
Director of fest moving
Ellen Street, maoaging

First Street Agency.
Ring Mr. -Lambert 01-
583 9371.

PUBLIC RELATIONS SECRETARIAL
—Buy account curricula
quires hard-working. w
groomed. Spl. Larier Secret
for leading London P.R. c
Kubonbridge. f

RECEPTIONIST / TELEPHONIST
Typist required for stand on medium sized group of companies. Situated Bond St. Piccadilly area. Must be a spoken, smartly dressed and

to operate 4 1/2 hours daily
E-collent salary. Population
forming benefits. Please ring
Hudson. Aug 4/64.

ADMINISTRATIVE SECRETARY
Charly, N.C. Hudson
include day-to-day running
office, supervising staff
liaising with members, people
and also acting as P.O.
Director, Hudson, some civil

ice work and confidential UT
age 25-30, salary \$1,000
4294, Career Plan Consult

YOUNG SEC. Shortland 1st
19+, to learn administer com
adult education, W.I.:
irregularly varied work; sal
\$23.24 + etc. Irreg beari
good college leave considered
Stella Fisher Bazaar (Art.).

Bureau. WGS. 836 6644.
 MATURE SECRETARY/P.A.
 desired by Architect's office
 2447. Salary negotiable. - Ph
 for appointment 364 WGS.

1. *Journal of the American Medical Association*, 1997; 277: 1039-1043.

• *Journal of Management Education* 31(10):1039-1050

BY THE FINANCIAL EDITOR

Glaxo's prospects still hold good

Glaxo was struggling mid-way through 1978 and if anything the pressures were greater as the year wore on. The outcome of £186.36m against £87.02m, up sales are up by 111 per cent at 3m. All this looks rather like 1974-75. Glaxo also ran into margin problems; factors this time being pressure on overseas sales caused by the relative strength sterling and a slower demand picture at home coupled with an inability to get prices sufficiently due to controls.

At the same time Glaxo's new products, notably a heart drug and a new anti-cancer drug, are still being put into international market and not yet making a significant profit contribution.

There then is Glaxo's potential for a return to growth—improved demand, particularly overseas, led by its new drugs, hopefully rather more opportunity to price increases at home. Optimists had led for this sort of picture to be emerging now, and the fact that it did not in second half of last year was responsible for the 28p fall in the share price to 600p. But there is no reason to doubt that the underlying argument holds good, that performance this year should be better.

Which suggests that Glaxo on a price of 121 is relatively attractive, though course there is still the yield of only

per cent to live with. If Glaxo can get things going again this year there is, give the new dividend formula on it, to do something with the payment, that apparently is the only prospect; company has considered and rejected rights of a fancy bond issue to finance Iyer Pharmaceuticals acquisition in the States and thus go through restraint on its grounds. But it certainly has the city—even allowing for a net fall in the share price of £30m last year—to be proud when the time comes.

Asping nettle

As though FMC is beginning to lose some of its fundamental problems, as reorganized internally, is closing a year in the Black Country and is now "of" further rationalization and "omies". But the accounts make it quite how deeply rooted the difficulties are. Last year's FMC has been finding it increasingly hard to compete to Europe use of subsidiaries and the artificially high of the Green pound. Except for a £100,000 tax credit last year it would not have been able to cover its reduced lend payment. Admittedly FMC set £700,000 to cover rationalization costs, but at the Black Country plant, but this of item seems likely to be a recurring one.

Meanwhile the balance sheet is showing respite signs of strain. Net borrowings year up from £12.8m to £14m. It represented an increase in relation shareholders funds of from 80 to 87 per cent. This is in spite of the fact that work-capital has been kept tightly under control and that capital investment of £3.3m, same as for the preceding three years, will very low to relation to a business generating external turnover of £423m. It is the crux of the problem. To be competitive against some of the more aggressive British products groups, as the continentals FMC now needs to invest more aggressively. But its mis-

erable level of profit and its current high gearing do not allow scope for more investment. The clear need is for a dramatic restructuring of the balance sheet. A right issue appears to be ruled out because the National Farmers Union, through the NFU Development Trust, controls 73 per cent of the equity.

The logical alternative would seem to be substantial asset disposals, but some help may be at hand from another quarter. FMC is in the process of a property revaluation, and while many of its properties are purpose designed the original group properties are in the books at cost, and those that came in with Marsh & Baxter were revalued just before the merger in 1962.

Freemans Volume comes through

Freemans' 31 per cent jump in profits to £7.2m could be the best performance among the three mail order groups which are announcing interim figures this week. Grattan today is unlikely to show much improvement on last year's sluggish performance while Empire tomorrow will be poised to show most of its growth in the second half.

This should not obscure the fact that the mail order business is now experiencing a fairly substantial boom. The ravages of inflation, which caused major rearing problems due to the necessity of financing high levels of stocks, are in the past while cost pressures have eased and disposable incomes have climbed.

For Freemans the result has been a 10 to 11 per cent volume increase in the first half pushing sales up by 21 per cent to £53.6m against an industry increase of 17 per cent.

So the 10 per cent outperformance of the share price over the past year is proving to have a solid enough base but the question now is whether Freemans retains its attractions with a prospective p/e ratio of 11.5 and a yield of 3 per cent. Two problems are the probable flattening out of consumer spending next year and the course of inflation. On the first point the credit offered by mail order companies has, historically, meant that a slowing up in spending growth affects the retailers more severely so mail order earnings growth next year has every chance of outperforming the stores sector as a whole. A sudden upturn in inflation, however, would severely inhibit the current expansionary mood and bring back the old financing problems.

The answer is that the shares, now rated very much in the mainstream of the stores sector, look secure enough though much of the excitement is over.

One business to which government, and not just the United Kingdom government, has given a tremendous boost in recent years has been that of tax planning. In spite of that, I suspect that a large number of us have probably done less than we should to provide against the avoidable takings of the taxman in the years ahead. But the inference to be drawn from a pamphlet on Tax Strategy for General Management, Economic and Social Issues (by John Chown and John Humble and published under the auspices of the Foundation for Business Responsibility) is that a large number of companies do not take tax strategy seriously enough.

Clearly, taxation considerations are vital for any company, particularly for those operating on an international basis. The authors suggest that companies could well find it worthwhile to take a much closer look at their tax planning and to initiate a system of taxation audits. What is envisaged is a small team set up in each company, with one member co-opted from outside the full-time staff, to make a very thorough assessment of such issues as the company's attitude towards tax morality, the types of decisions in which tax considerations are deemed to be a factor, and the management and the skills of the tax department.

The authors also feel that all companies of any size need a tax strategy. Future tax rates and rules may be fraught with uncertainty, they argue, but, like any other uncertainties a business has to face, tax trends should also be capable of rational analysis.

Salisbury, Rhodesia

As the Rhodesian war intensifies and December 31, the date set for black majority rule, draws nearer, so the pace of white emigration has begun to quicken, leaving the nerve ends of the economy dangerously exposed in some places.

Official figures show that a total of 3,465 whites left Rhodesia between January and the end of August, the latest reported period, while only 3,433 elected to come in as immigrants, producing a net loss of 6,032.

The figures also reveal a sharp rise in the rhythm of white emigration after the signing of the March 3 settlement agreement by Mr. Ian Smith, the Prime Minister, and three internally-based black political leaders. In March itself the net loss of whites was 471. In July it was 1,111 and in August 1,245.

The Government's figures are said by critics to underestimate the scale of the problem, since for many whites the financial gains to be obtained from officially emigrating are only marginally greater than using the full foreign exchange allocation allowed for a prolonged holiday in assess prospects in more peaceful climates. Nevertheless, even at the present official rate of accounting, it is forecast that the total size of the white community will have slipped to below 230,000 by the end of this year, compared with its peak of 277,000 in 1976.

Although the rate of white emigration so far shows no sign of being the panic-stricken exodus widely forecast outside the country, the loss of skilled manpower is now at the stage where industry is beginning to feel the pinch, or at least those sectors which have not taken steps to compensate for a shortage of white skills.

A survey of leading Rhodesian companies reveals

wide differences in the extent of their preparations for the possibility of a critical shortage of white skills. The wisest began preparing for such an eventuality a long time ago; the less perceptive have not even begun thinking about it.

Yet an analysis of the occupational breakdown of emigration figures shows that the damage is being inflicted in precisely those areas most directly related to Rhodesia's industrial and commercial performance. In the case of professional workers, figures for the first eight months of this year disclose that the biggest single net loss came from engineers, draughtsmen and engineering technicians as a group, followed by accountants and auditors. These two groups together accounted for 47 per cent of the total net loss of professional workers.

Production workers

Among production workers mechanical engineering produced the biggest group of emigrants between January and August, followed equally by motor mechanics and construction workers. Electricians were the next biggest group and the four occupations together provided 79 per cent of the net loss of production workers.

In the case of the construction industry, which acts as a barometer of economic performance, the survey shows manpower has been particularly dramatic since the economy went into a downturn in 1975. Over the past three years an estimated 25 per cent of the industry's total skilled manpower has been lost. In the case of mechanical engineering the loss of skilled men in the past year alone has been over 12 per cent of the total.

Rhodesian company executives confess that the shortage of artisans is the biggest single

recruitment difficulty they face at present, although the scale of the problem is disguised by the fact that the economy is going through its fourth consecutive year of negative growth.

One executive summed up the problem: "If we lose an artisan and we can't replace him, then it takes five years to train up another."

The more astute corporations saw the problem coming some time ago and have developed appropriate programmes to cope with it. Well in advance of the others when it comes to this is the Anglo-American Corporation. At Anglo's Trojan nickel mine at Bindura, 50 miles north of Salisbury, contingency planning has reached the stage where the management believes it could cope smoothly with the departure of virtually all its skilled white workers.

What Trojan has done is prepare groups of black workers, known as the "BBB-team", whose experience and aptitude would enable them to be trained very swiftly to fully skilled levels should the mine suffer a sudden and dramatic loss of whites. This is on top of the company's normal training programme which was effectively demobilized four years ago with the result that about half its apprentice intake now consists of blacks.

Among skilled workers at Trojan, some 20 per cent of the total are now blacks, while some groups like surveyors and smelter operators, now have hardly any white members at all.

Elsewhere in the mining industry Rio Tinto Rhodesia has embarked on a programme which follows similar lines. As Rio Tinto chairman Mr. William Rickards said recently: "In 1974, it became apparent that the expansion and development of the country was being hampered by a shortage of European labour and that

men were not available or being trained fast enough locally to make up for wastage, let alone the expansion of industry."

Like Anglo, Rio Tinto embarked on what it prefers to call a "non-racial policy" rather than a programme of accelerated Africanization.

Both groups have adopted a policy of paying blacks exactly the same rates as whites as they move up the promotion scale. Most important of all, they have both rejected job-fraternization as a possible solution to a sudden loss of white skills.

Anglo executives in particular, with experience of the Zambian situation, shudder at the havoc job fragmentation, the division of a particular skilled job into a host of component functions, wrought when it was introduced, is to the mining industry there.

In manufacturing industry the more enlightened corporations have followed similar courses to the mining industry when it comes to training of blacks, preferring to allow black advancement to take place on the basis of what executives insist is merit alone.

Whether this will be enough to offset the insecurity generated by the growing threat from the Patriotic Front guerrillas, or indeed to compensate for the military duties which are instrumental in making many white workers decide to leave remains unknown. Certainly, given the perilous political situation of the internal black leaders, it is difficult to see how they will be able to meet the aspirations of the burgeoning black intelligentsia without at some point consciously adopting speeded up Africanization policies.

It is this eventuality, perhaps more than any other, that few major Rhodesian employers seem to have woken up to as the country drifts towards majority rule.

the total of 4,019 industrial apprentices at present under training, 814 are blacks.

A massive white exodus would clearly put many companies in danger, even though, as one executive put it: "If we all have to get out, the whole question of what my company does gets pretty academic, doesn't it?"

In the case of one company I spoke to the danger may only be that far away anyway. The Rhodesian offshoot of a world-famous British construction company said: "If all the whites left us, we'd have to close down. There are no blacks being trained here."

The general policy of black promotion on the grounds of merit alone has won the support of the three black leaders who have joined in the internal settlement exercise. Bishop Abel Muzorewa, the Reverend Ndabaningi Sithole and Chief Jeremiah Chirau. All three have said repeatedly that their policy is to ensure that Rhodesia retains the white skills vital to the continuing functioning of its economy.

By a Special Correspondent

Malcolm Brown

BOC: how a dispute could cripple industry

Mr James Callaghan, his pay policy already under enormous strain because of the Ford strike and the resolve free bargaining stance taken by Mr Moss Evans, the transport workers' leader, must have felt just the slightest frisson of apprehension yesterday as the pay talks dragged on between BOC and the 3,000 workers in its gases division.

The Ford strike is a political embarrassment. A stoppage by BOC workers would spell industrial havoc.

BOC controls 80 per cent of the United Kingdom's industrial gases market. There are three methods of supply—cylinders, bulk liquid and pipeline. By far the largest proportion of customers are supplied by cylinder and it is the cylinder and bulk liquid deliveries which have been under threat.

The 3,000 workers whose representatives met BOC management at the Chertsey Hotel yesterday are fillers, handlers and delivery men in the cylinder and bulk liquid departments. Employees working in the so-called tonnage section (pipelines for delivery of gases from production units in key industrial areas such as South Wales, the Midlands and the North-east) have—at least until now—kept well clear of the manual workers' argument.

They will be negotiating a separate deal with management.

But between them the 3,000 manual workers could wreak havoc on industry if they chose. Industrial gases—oxygen, nitrogen and argon—are an essential ingredient of nearly every modern industrial process.

tagged on for talks in Washington with Robert Strauss, President Carter's special trade representative.

Dell wants to discuss progress on the multilateral trade negotiations and talk over prospects for world trade generally. "It's not so much fact-finding as a think-in", said one of his aides yesterday.

Dell will want to assess what differences, if any, there are in Canadian and United States attitudes to tightening up the rules on government subsidies to industrial sectors.

There is the question, too, of how North Americans view the EEC's determination that the next round of trade pacts should include provision for governments to bring in selective safeguards where industrial sectors are threatened with serious damage from imports.

But Dell is to have a day in oil-rich Alberta, particularly to see how the tar sands are now being exploited. He has also allowed himself time to drop into Toronto so that, as well as having more talks, he can fulfil a minor ambition—and see Niagara Falls for the first time.

industry was facing began to percolate through. Then, quite suddenly, sales of industrial gas began to drop in from all over the United Kingdom.

On October 18, Swan Hunter in North Shields had to send some 1,000 men home, followed by similar lay-offs at Scott Lithgow on the Clyde, lay-offs were reported by Harland and Wolff in Belfast.

As leaders of the Confederation of British Industry sped off to plead with the Chancellor of the Exchequer to act as an honest broker and bring both sides together, the industrial effects began like wildfire. Nylon production at Courtaulds was hit, the Tborn group had to lay off 3,300 workers at its plants in Leicester, Merthyr and Preston and a further 3,000 employees in a jointly-owned component companies had to be sent home.

Cornig, the American glass-makers, had to lay off nearly half its workforce as gas supplies ran out; and British Rail gave warning that track relaying programmes were under threat.

By the end of October it was estimated that about 30,000 companies had been affected in one degree or another and BOC itself issued a warning that if the strike dragged on much longer as many as 100,000 companies might have to shut down.

BOC is the dominant company in the United Kingdom industrial gases market. The only other supplier is Air Products, an American group which moved into the United Kingdom in the late fifties. But Air Products is not in any position to help beleaguered British companies.

Its own customers have first

call on its supplies and it could supply BOC customers only if it had spare capacity. A further complication is that its drivers belong to the same union as those at BOC and would not be likely to do anything which acted against the interests of their union colleagues.

The nightmare for industrial leaders and the Government in last year's dispute was that the strike would spread from the cylinder and bulk liquid sections of the company to the tonnage section, a move which would have very quickly brought such organizations as the British Steel Corporation to a halt.

The book by Samuel Brittan referred to in yesterday's article by Patrick Minford was *The Economic Consequences of Bureaucracy*, Temple Smith 1977.

Business Diary: Mr World contest • Anti-corrosive?

It is only to be expected that the battle between Mecca's Eric and the parent Grand opolitan (some might say d-parent) would attract spread publicity.

Mr Mecca, not noted for reserve in seeing his name in print, is aged 59, and his wife is used to being in the gaze mainly through the World competition. But by a failed Conservative MP for Dulwich, south London, during the October election, also does a lot of electioneering work as a member of the Conservative Party.

Mr Mecca has said he was in a London warehouse orphaned at ten, claims he started his business when in the Navy by selling credit a bar of toffee no 40 pieces.

He was open equally for both men and women.

Might there soon be a job at the top for the right woman?

A boardroom dispute at Camrex, the Sunderland-based corrosion engineers and specialist coatings supplier, cannot expect to command quite the same popular interest as the fight between Eric Mecca and his masters.

In its way, however, it will be every bit as important to the future direction of the company, which employs some 1,600 people.

Out go Alex and William Cameron, respectively the son and grandson of the Alex Cameron who founded and gave his name to the company. In a brief statement yesterday the company said they had resigned due to a major difference of future policy.

The dispute seems to have come to a head quite rapidly. It was only three months ago that Alex Cameron stepped down as chairman, while remaining on the board, and it was only a year ago that William Cameron, his son, was appointed in the board.

There have, however, been other key changes, including the appointment of John Wittet as chief executive and the resignation of Alan Miller as joint managing director.

The dispute has centred upon efforts by Roger Wake, who became chairman in place of Alex Cameron, to move Camrex further away from the ship industry to which its original main growth was based. Wake's view is that because of the crisis in shipping it would be right for Camrex's marine salesmen to cover other indus-

trial fields where there are better future prospects.

Camrex has already moved in this direction—for instance, into painting power stations, rigs, refineries and bridges, where anti-corrosion properties are needed. Wake, who is also a director of merchant bank Kleinwort Benson and chairman of Carports International, wants to take this process further.

Recent results showed a collapse in first half profits from £1.2m to only £31,000 and this was directly attributed to the worldwide shipping slump. Wake is now looking for new directors to strengthen the board, but in the meantime the stock market has already given its own instant opinion on the changes, marking the shares 2p higher to 55p last night.

A contingent from the Society of Motor Manufacturers and Traders returned at the weekend from the Paris motor show more convinced than ever that our own show, due to open at the end of next week at its new venue, the National Exhibition Centre, outside Birmingham, cannot fail.

The SMMT party, headed by president Sir Barrie Heath, went on the press preview day and found the show in a shambles with very little imagination in the displays and work-mech and cranes threaten life and limb.

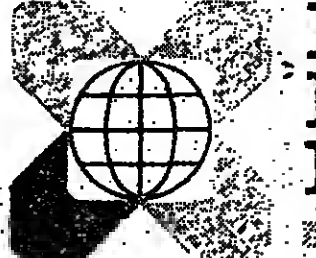
Work started at the NEC last Friday and Westminster promised that when the show opens to the public on Friday of next week "everything will be spick and span." This will be a great comfort to the people who left Paris bristling with the dust and debris from their clothes.

Edmund Dell, who has not been to Canada since he became Secretary of State for Trade, leaves for a week's visit there tomorrow. A day is being

tagged on for talks in Washington with Robert Strauss, President Carter's special trade representative.

Dell wants to discuss progress on the multilateral trade negotiations and talk over prospects for world trade generally. "It's not so much fact-finding as a think-in", said one of his aides yesterday.

Dell will want to assess what differences, if any, there are in Canadian and United States attitudes to tightening up the rules on government subsidies to industrial sectors.



Lesney Products & Co Limited

INTERIM RESULTS

for the 24 weeks ended 16th July 1978 (Unaudited). Prepared on the basis of accounting policies described in the 1977-78 accounts with adjustments to interim comparatives (Note 2 below).

	24 weeks ended 16th July 1978	24 weeks ended 16th July 1977	Year ended 31st March 1978
Turnover	30467	22226	63339
Profit before Interest and Depreciation (Note 1)	3856	3115	9975
Depreciation	724	421	1489
Interest payable less receivable	366	251	471
Profit before Taxation (Note 1)	2766	2443	8015
Taxation			
U.K.	900	650	1059
Overseas	576	594	2253
Profit after Taxation	1290	1199	4703
Notes: 1. Including currency gains of	330	470	500
2. The results of Metal Castings (Worcester) Ltd. are included for the nine weeks since acquisition.			
Per Share:			
Earnings	3.84	3.56	14.07
Interim Dividend	1.1792*	1.056	1.056
Final Dividend	—	—	1.848

Excluding currency gains, profit before taxation is 23% up on last year at £2,436,000.

Higher depreciation reflects the expansion of U.K. manufacturing facilities.

Metal Castings (Worcester) Ltd. has traded profitably since acquisition.

The larger charge for interest results from financing increased toy and hobby production together with other seasonal items.

Demand for these products remains high, and we are expecting record Christmas sales.

P. M. Tapscott

Chairman

*The interim dividend is payable on 2nd January 1979 to Ordinary and Restricted Voting Ordinary Shareholders registered by 25th October 1978. It will be about 2.5p.

David Felton

FINANCIAL NEWS AND MARKET REPORTS

Stock markets

Glaxo too late to affect good tone

A day when the tone was one of general improvement contained a sting in the tail. For much of the session, the market took heart from progress made on the Ford and BOC International pay fronts and after a slowish start the FT index closed 7.2 ahead at 510.2.

The wholesale index was mostly seen as neutral in tone. What was described as a hearing union response to a complex offer from the BOC management and the first steps toward breaking the pay dead lock at Ford was enough to wipe out falls of around 1 in many Government Securities. This index closed fractionally lower at 69.87 although falls of around 1-16 became apparent in after hours.

The proposed transatlantic insurance link-up between C. T. Bouring and Marsh & McLennan has prompted market talk that Alexander Howden is planning a similar deal with United States broker, Alexander & Alexander. However, the latter is on how to establish a United States presence. With a £26m right issue behind it the group could be revealing developments on the takeover front very soon.

Confident style but the results of Glaxo came too late to alter the course of measurable inter performance. While the drug giant watchers had been anticipating something in the region of a 55m pre-tax advance, the effect of a slight Government warning about the group's older products was sufficient to slash 28p off the share price to 500p. The market has been visibly upset by a seemingly poor profits season from many major companies and since Glaxo is a 30-share constituent.

It may be reasonable to expect a general air of insecurity as markets open this morning. Certainly, the tone after the official close did nothing to allay that suspicion. Nor that there has been any insecurity among mail order stocks. Freemans (SW 9) set the tone for what should be a busy week in this sector and interim profits which came right at the top end of market expectations were good for a 15p rise to 400p. It does not take very much to argue that Glaxo, reporting today, will also please and the shares added 2p to 132p while Empire, announcing tomorrow, put on 5p to 175p. GUS 'A' joined the party with a 4p rise to 323p. Leading shares were mostly in demand. Better prospects on the industrial relations front put 1p on BOC International at 70p while thoughts that EMI should start climbing out of the profits trough were enough to lift the price by 4p to 164p. ICI added 3p to 398p while Courtaulds put on 2p to 124p. Vantona, which like Courtaulds, has been linked with J. Compton Sons & Webb were unchanged yesterday at 137p while the object of their affections

climbed 1p to 73p. Unilever rose 4p to 564p while Tubes advanced 4p to 364p and both GKN and Lucas were also in demand. John Brown, however, took most of the attention among the engineering leaders with a rise of 18p to 476p.

Grand Metropolitan weathered uncertainties about the management of its Mecca subsidiary and added 1p to 111p while, elsewhere on the leisure pile, Ladbroke were wanted at 196p, up 3p on the day, in anticipation of a United States quote.

While Lesney were unchanged at 92p, many of the other companies reporting yesterday met a warm reception. A 45 per cent pre-tax advance at Lake and Elliott helped the shares up to 56p while better than doubled profits from Reed Executive lifted the shares by 7p to 80p. Hewlett Stuart improved 4p to 58p while further consideration of last week's reported strong performance at Wolstenholme Bronze was enough to lift the shares further.

Due to an agency error, shareholders in King & Shaxson may

have been given the impression that a board meeting was due today. They should note, however, that the bank will be holding its board meeting on November 10.

Turnover on October 6 was £71.612 (12,168 bargains). According to Exchange Telegraph.

Leysland Paint has had a good run this year but, at 90p, the price may be some way short of the profit and income potential. Sales volume and lower interest charges, some say, may lift annualised full year earnings from 12.2p to 13.5p per share while a dividend rise of a third, covered over two and a half times, looks conceivable under new legislation to yield around 7.5 per cent. Loan stock conversion last June has cut the gearing considerably and the net cash position has improved from a deficit to a small surplus.

graph, active stocks yesterday

were ICI, Shell, CEC, Barclays, BT, First National Finance, BAT, did, GUS 'A', Reed Executive, Beccam, Boots, EMI, Ladbroke, TSB, Tube Investments and RTZ.

Latest results

Company	Sales	Profits	Earnings	Div	Pay	Year's
Int of Fin	£m	£m	per share	pence	date	total
Edinburgh Inv Trst (1)	20.9 (19.67)	0.9 (0.81)	1.08 (1.04)	3.4 (3.2)	4/12	(1.3)
J. E. Goss (1)	100.4 (93.4)	7.2 (6.5)	—	—	6/12	(1.3)
Gidding & Lewis (1)	4.3 (3.9)	0.36 (0.42)	—	—	4/1	11.4
Glaxo (F)	392.3 (360.5)	86.4 (87.0)	0.69 (0.6)	0.94 (0.8)	—	1.49 (1.3)
R. Green Prop (F)	4.1 (2.9)	0.56 (0.43)	0.91 (0.7)	1.4 (1.0)	9/1	3.25 (2.5)
Helene of Ldn (1)	5.9 (5.0)	0.31 (0.25)	0.37 (0.44)	4.2 (2.1)	4/1	3.89 (3.4)
Hunting Pet (1)	70.8 (—)	0.2 (0.1)	2.76 (2.4)	1.2 (1.1)	2/1	(2.8)
S. Jerome (1)	4.8 (3.6)	0.25 (0.2)	2.64 (1.68)	—	—	50 (—)
Lake and Elliott (F)	1.5 (1.1)	0.09 (0.06)	0.93 (0.53)	0.2 (—)	27/11	(0.25)
Lesney Products (1)	73.7 (82.8)	5.2 (5.4)	—	—	1/12	(2.2)
McLeery L'Amie (1)	10.6 (10.3)	0.02 (0.01)	—	—	1/12	(2.2)
Wm Newell (F)	0.16 (0.15)	0.78 (0.37)	—	—	2/12	(2.2)
Reed Executive (1)	8.16 (6.2)	1.76 (1.3)	—	—	—	—
Silentnight (1)	24.7 (16.3)	0.2 (0.1)	—	—	—	—

Dividends in this table are shown net of no pence tax share. To establish gross multiply the net dividend by 1.155. Profits are shown pre-tax and earnings are net, a loss b forecast.

Rally on way at Audiotronic

By Our Financial Staff

Audiotronic Holdings' results should show an improvement during the half year to August 31 over the comparable period, according to interim profits, chairman, last year the group, which operates the Laskys chain of hi-fi shops, made pre-tax losses of £92,000 in the interim period, after a move into France. The group pulled out earlier this year and Mr Rose became chairman.

He told shareholders at the annual meeting yesterday that the company could look forward to a period of intensive activity aimed at improving profitability and full-year results will reflect the benefits of the company's reorganization.

New branches are opening on schedule, and the disposal of uneconomic units is also proceeding providing about £500,000 which will be used for development.

United Kingdom retail sales have improved by 25 per cent and the plans to reduce head office operating costs have been successful. New product lines will maintain the company's competitive edge, he added.

Reed executive doubles up in opening stage

Reed Executive, the employment agency, more than doubled its pre-tax profit to £782,000 against £372,000 in the half year to July 1.

Turnover increased by £3m to £9.7m and the interim dividend is 2.23p gross compared with 1.66p gross last year. The final should be the maximum permitted on the basis of these results, said Mr Alec Reed, chairman.

"The company has enjoyed an excellent level of activity during the first six months. With this performance our employment agencies must have maintained their pre-eminent position in the sector."

He said retail turnover in the Medicare division had increased by 80 per cent, "as a result of improved sales in established units, largely through more effective trading policies, and from new shop openings although these new units unavoidably traded at a loss initially."

Options

In contrast to the equity market, traded options suffered noticeably slack demand. There was little or no demand for Consolidated Goldfields ahead of the results due tomorrow while none of the Imperial Group series were traded at all. Marks & Spencer were scarcely any better with only one of the 15 series being active. The sleepy picture was prevalent on the pitch all day. Only four of the 12 ICI series were dealt while BOC, whose labour relations offered a glimmer of light, saw business in half its six series. Brokers, Sheppard & Associates reported only 281 contracts by midday and similarly sluggish business in the afternoon session. Volume, then, was far short of the profitable mid-September activity of more than 1,000 contracts daily.

Lonsdale Universal top Pentos offer by 67p

By Christopher Wilkins

The 150p a share bid by Pentos for Midland Educational has been impressively topped by an offer worth 217p from printing and stationery group Lonsdale Universal.

Lonsdale's offer, which values Midland Educational at £3m, takes the form of five Lonsdale shares plus 250p for every five Midland shares. Lonsdale is also offering one of its own 4.9 per cent preference shares for every 3.85 per cent Midland preference share. Midland's directors were considering the new offer last night.

J E England plunges in first-half

As expected pre-tax profits of J. E. England & Sons (Wellington) the potato, grain and produce, merchants and exporters, plunged from £536,000 to £114,000 for the six months to June 30.

Group sales for the period increased from £19.9m to £20.9m. A statement from the directors of the group said it was impossible to forecast results for the full year but in the knowledge of first half profits the interim dividend is raised from 0.54p gross to 0.60p.

Despite uncertainties farmers have planted a larger acreage in 1978 than that recommended by the Potato Marketing Board and all the information now available indicates a surplus of supplies, the directors said.

Low prices for the second successive year have resulted in continued difficult trading conditions in the potato trade but the directors of the business are progressing satisfactorily, they added.

Last year the group pushed up pre-tax profits from £624,000 to £1.2m on sales down from £37.5m to £35.5m.

Tridant independents turn to Argus

In a surprising turnaround yesterday the independent directors of Tridant decided to recommend the offers of 100p for each Tridant ordinary share and 52p for each preference share to be made by Argus. The independent directors have withdrawn their recommendations of the offers by Stawest Investment Holdings. Acceptances had been received amounting to 45 per cent of the ordinary shares and 39 per cent of the preference shares.

R Green Props at £510,000

R. Green Properties pre-tax profits doubled to £510,000 in the year ending June 30, an increase of 42 per cent to £4.1m. The profit includes capital profits of £76,000 transferred to the capital reserve.

A final dividend of 1.4p gross is proposed making a total of 2.22p against 2.0p last year.

His chairman, Mr A. H. Bowerman, said that the year had started well and profits for the first quarter are higher than those in the corresponding period.

Helene opens in smart style

Pre-tax profits for Helene of London, fashion and leisure wear manufacturer, increased by 29 per cent to £556,000 on a sales increase of 18 per cent to £5.95m, in the six months to June 30 1978.

A preference share dividend of 6p has been declared against 3.68p in 1977.

Midland has already put up a spirited defence against the Pentos cash offer. It has raised its dividend by 70 per cent and has revalued its assets at 175p a share. The bid was described as "totally inadequate and unacceptable".

Lonsdale has had dealings with Midland for many years and for the past five years has held a small share stake in it of 21 per cent. L. E. Midland, Lonsdale has substantial interests in books, mostly in the field of library services but also in general retailing. Midland is viewed as a logical extension of its existing interests.

The offer is a big one for Lonsdale, however, comparing with its present stock market value of £1.5m. Lonsdale's net worth in September last year of £57m. In earnings terms the offer implies an exit price earnings ratio of 16.

Recently Lonsdale expanded its books business, Cambridge University Press, into Australia and the United States through the acquisition for £425,000 cash of James Bennett of Sydney. Lonsdale's turnover in this field totalled more than £7m last year.

main unchanged at 2.1p gross. World wool prices have tended to move upwards in recent months and man-made fibres have tended to increase, somewhat in harmony. Therefore, the group was forced to increase its selling prices in August after more than six months of stable prices.

Mary Kathleen and loan agreement

At the annual meeting in April, and again in the half-yearly report in August, Mary Kathleen Uranium refers to the discussions with Conzinc Rio Tinto of Australia and the Commonwealth Government, two groups' two major shareholders over the future of the loan financing of the two major shareholders in December, 1977.

As a result of these discussions, the funds provided by the two major shareholders will remain in the form of loans, and will not be converted to equity. In accordance with the loan agreements, interest will be payable from January 1, 1979, to the company in 1979, will be about \$2.4m.

Dollar Land

Mr. Hugh Brackett, chairman of Dollar Land, is not as indicated here last week seeking to call shareholders to vote certain British directors off the board. Mr. D. C. Barrett, who recently acquired 60 per cent of the company, has notified his intention of opposing the reelection of Mr. Brackett and Mr. P. J. S. Stephens who retire by poll at the annual meeting on October 27. He may also propose the removal of Mr. J. A. L. Drummond from the board. The chairman has stated that he will remain on the board only if his resignation is evident, but in the longer term substantial growth in the industries served by the company is still obscure.

The proposed final dividend is 3.64p gross which with the interim of 2.15p makes a total of 5.79p, the permitted maximum increase.

Jerome surmounts tough going

In spite of the difficult conditions experienced at Jerome & Sons (Holdings), spinner and maker of worsted fabrics, it increased pre-tax profits for the six months to June 30 from £256,000 to £311,000. Turnover rose from £3.6m to £4.5m. Earnings a share are 4.5p against 4.2p. The interim dividend remains unchanged at 0.75p gross.

Business continued to be extremely difficult in all areas of the group's activities, however, in view of the results of the first half, the board feels confident it will be able to recommend for 1978 the same dividend as the previous year, on the increased capital.

Hugh Mackay in interim rise

In spite of a difficult period Hugh Mackay, the "Durham" carpets group pushed up pre-tax profits for the six months to June 30 from £197,000 to £218,000. Turnover increased from £3.9m to £4.1m. The interim dividend re-

main unchanged at 2.1p gross. World wool prices have tended to move upwards in recent months and man-made fibres have tended to increase, somewhat in harmony. Therefore, the group was forced to increase its selling prices in August after more than six months of stable prices.

Both Exxon Corporation and the Royal Dutch-Shell Group confirmed reports that they have held preliminary discussions with Venezuela regarding the possible sale of interests in their Netherlands Antilles refineries.

But a spokeswoman for Exxon said there have not been any further discussions since mid-September.

According to Exxon and Royal Dutch-Shell the discussions regarding Venezuela's oil industry in 1976. The Exxon refinery is at Aruba and the Royal Dutch-Shell at Curaçao.

The Exxon spokeswoman said that some weeks ago there had been "preliminary discussions" with Petroleos de Venezuela "regarding the possibility of the national Venezuelan oil company purchasing an interest in the Lago refinery located in

Both refineries were built to process Venezuelan crude oil. Units of Exxon and Royal Dutch-Shell were leading proponents of Venezuelan crude before the nationalization of Venezuela's oil industry in 1976.

The Exxon refinery is at Aruba and the Royal Dutch-Shell at Curaçao.

The Exxon spokeswoman said that some weeks ago there had been "preliminary discussions" with Petroleos de Venezuela "regarding the possibility of the national Venezuelan oil company purchasing an interest in the Lago refinery located in

Both refineries were built to process Venezuelan crude oil. Units of Exxon and Royal Dutch-Shell were leading proponents of Venezuelan crude before the nationalization of Venezuela's oil industry in 1976.

The Exxon refinery is at Aruba and the Royal Dutch-Shell at Curaçao.

The Exxon spokeswoman said that some weeks ago there had been "preliminary discussions" with Petroleos de Venezuela "regarding the possibility of the national Venezuelan oil company purchasing an interest in the Lago refinery located in

Both refineries were built to process Venezuelan crude oil. Units of Exxon and Royal Dutch-Shell were leading proponents of Venezuelan crude before the nationalization of Venezuela's oil industry in 1976.

The Exxon refinery is at Aruba and the Royal Dutch-Shell at Curaçao.

The Exxon spokeswoman said that some weeks ago there had been "preliminary discussions" with Petroleos de Venezuela "regarding the possibility of the national Venezuelan oil company purchasing an interest in the Lago refinery located in

Both refineries were built to process Venezuelan crude oil. Units of Exxon and Royal Dutch-Shell were leading proponents of Venezuelan crude before the nationalization of Venezuela's oil industry in 1976.

The Exxon refinery is at Aruba and the Royal Dutch-Shell at Curaçao.

The Exxon spokeswoman said that some weeks ago there had been "preliminary discussions" with Petroleos de Venezuela "regarding the possibility of the national Venezuelan oil company purchasing an interest in the Lago refinery located in

Both refineries were built to process Venezuelan crude oil. Units of Exxon and Royal Dutch-Shell were leading proponents of Venezuelan crude before the nationalization of Venezuela's oil industry in 1976.

The Exxon refinery is at Aruba and the Royal Dutch-Shell at Curaçao.

The Exxon spokeswoman said that some weeks ago there had been "preliminary discussions" with Petroleos de Venezuela "regarding the possibility of the national Venezuelan oil company purchasing an interest in the Lago refinery located in

Both refineries were built to process Venezuelan crude oil. Units of Exxon and Royal Dutch-Shell were leading proponents of Venezuelan crude before the nationalization of Venezuela's oil industry in 1976.

The Exxon refinery is at Aruba and the Royal Dutch-Shell at Curaçao.

The Exxon spokeswoman said that some weeks ago there had been "preliminary discussions" with Petroleos de Venezuela "regarding the possibility of the national Venezuelan oil company purchasing an interest in the Lago refinery located in

Both refineries were built to process Venezuelan crude oil. Units of Exxon and Royal Dutch-Shell were leading proponents of Venezuelan crude before the nationalization of Venezuela's oil industry in 1976.

The Exxon refinery is at Aruba and the Royal Dutch-Shell at Curaçao.

The Exxon spokeswoman said that some weeks ago there had been "preliminary discussions" with Petroleos de Venezuela "regarding the possibility of the national Venezuelan oil company purchasing an interest in the Lago refinery located in

Marchwiel looks to pick-up in second-half

By Rosemary Unsworth

After Marchwiel Holdings insistence on turning away unprofitable overseas contracts last year, the civil engineering group's pre-tax profits fell slightly from £5.39m to £5.23m in the six months to April 30 compared with the same period.

The group, led by the McAlpine family, suffered from a 10 per cent fall in turnover to £7.91m because of a lower level of activity overseas, and a 10 per cent fall in the first couple of months of the year, according to Mr Alfred McAlpine, chairman.

But he said that turnover was expected to pick up during the second half and pre-tax profits would be similar to those of last year at £13m.

As forecast, an interim dividend of 2.98p gross has been declared and the board expects paying a promised 4.47p gross for the final. The new £4.5p is not strictly comparable with last year's maximum of 5.15p as the group was reconstructed earlier this year which enables it to pay a larger increase in the dividend for two years.

Overseas activity was hampered by the group's failure to gain new contracts in the Middle East although it is negotiating for work on Saudi Arabia's new university at Riyadh as part of a consortium.

At home a reasonable level of contract activity is being maintained but recently margins have not continued to improve as much as we had hoped," said Mr McAlpine. The group is also vexed by lack of payment for work in the Sudan and Portugal as well as difficulties in finding profitable overseas contracts.

At home the loss on a civil engineering contract is estimated to be around £1m although other contracts' elements should make a significant contribution to profits next year.

The non-contracting subsidiaries are performing well, according to the chairman, and they are expected to make an increasingly important contribution. But the threat of winter strikes in the car industry could rebound on the group's motor business and reduce its profitability.

Lesney going strong but hard task to top best-ever £10m

By Michael Pratt

Lesney Products, the toy and industrial decaying group, looks as though it has a good chance of matching last year's £8m pre-tax profit, but will have to run hard to overtake 1976's £10m. In the first six months to the middle of July, Lesney made £2.77m compared with £2.44m in the same period last year, an increase of 23 per cent excluding currency gains.

The turnover of £30.5m, against £22.2m for the first half of 1977, includes about £2m from nine weeks income from Metal Castings, a Worcester die-cast company bought for £2.3m in April. The turnover figure comparable with last year's £22.2m is therefore about £28m.

Average price increases were between 10 and 11 per cent, or some £2.8m of the turnover without Metal Castings. Currency gains brought in £300,000 against £40,000, though Mr P. M. Tapscott, Lesney's chairman, expects adverse currency movements to leave gains of around £350,000 for the whole year.

An interest charge £115,000 up at £368,000 is attributed to stock financing needs. Depreciation was £224,000 instead of £121,000, chiefly reflecting the expansion of United Kingdom manufacturing capacity at Worcester and Peterborough.

Mr Tapscott anticipates record Christmas sales, and also points out that second-half earnings are several times more than those of the first half because the period is four weeks longer and employees take fewer holidays. The end of the year may in addition see a turnaround in fortunes at AMT, an American maker of plastic model kits which Lesney purchased for £8.65m in June.

The gearing on the sale of toy stocks is high so that if most of the stock is shifted profit margins can rise to 35 per cent. Lesney will probably have to manage this if it is to meet market estimates of about £9.5m for 1978. Earnings per share of 3.84p against 3.66p (14.07p for 1977 and an interim dividend of 1.76p gross has been declared. The shares closed at 52p unchanged.

Korean Reinsurance for London market

The Korean Reinsurance Corporation, which was nationalized in February, has been granted a Department of Trade licence to write business in the London market.

The DoT's minimum asset criteria has been satisfied by the provision of £500,000 and a letter of credit for a similar amount. As a result premiums written will be limited to around £4m in the first year of operation.

However, Mr David Norris, who has been appointed under-

writer and managing director of the London operation, said that there are plans to steadily increase the capital base.

Formed by the South Korean Government in 1963, the KRC officially "went public" earlier this year with a listing on the London Stock Exchange. The majority stake is held by a private sector syndicate which includes 15 insurance companies, eight banks and four securities companies.

It has an asset base of \$144m and last year handled gross premiums of \$163m.

Venezuela eyes Exxon and Shell in Antilles

Both Exxon Corporation and the Royal Dutch-Shell Group confirmed reports that they have held preliminary discussions with Venezuela regarding the possible sale of interests in their Netherlands Antilles refineries.

But a spokeswoman for Exxon said there have not been any further discussions since mid-September.

According to Exxon and Royal Dutch-Shell the discussions regarding Venezuela's oil industry in 1976. The Exxon refinery is at Aruba and the Royal Dutch-Shell at Curaçao.

The Exxon spokeswoman said that some weeks ago there had been "preliminary discussions" with Petroleos de Venezuela "regarding the possibility of the national Venezuelan oil company purchasing an interest in the Lago refinery located in

Both refineries were built to process Venezuelan crude oil. Units of Exxon and Royal Dutch-Shell were leading proponents of Venezuelan crude before the nationalization of Venezuela's oil industry in 1976.

The Exxon refinery is at Aruba and the Royal Dutch-Shell at Curaçao.

The Exxon spokeswoman said that some weeks ago there had been "preliminary discussions" with Petroleos de Venezuela "regarding the possibility of the national Venezuelan oil company purchasing an interest in the Lago refinery located in

Both refineries were built to process Venezuelan crude oil. Units of Exxon and Royal Dutch-Shell were leading proponents of Venezuelan crude before the nationalization of Venezuela's oil industry in 1976.

The Exxon refinery is at Aruba and the Royal Dutch-Shell at Curaçao.

The Exxon spokeswoman said that some weeks ago there had been "preliminary discussions" with Petroleos de Venezuela "regarding the possibility of the national Venezuelan oil company purchasing an interest in the Lago refinery located in

Both refineries were built to process Venezuelan crude oil. Units of Exxon and Royal Dutch-Shell were leading proponents of Venezuelan crude before the nationalization of Venezuela's oil industry in 1976.

The Exxon refinery is at Aruba and the Royal Dutch-Shell at Curaçao.

The Exxon spokeswoman said that some weeks ago there had been "preliminary discussions" with Petroleos de Venezuela "regarding the possibility of the national Venezuelan oil company purchasing an interest in the Lago refinery located in

Both refineries were built to process Venezuelan crude oil. Units of Exxon and Royal Dutch-Shell were leading proponents of Venezuelan crude before the nationalization of Venezuela's oil industry in 1976.

The Exxon refinery is at Aruba and the Royal Dutch-Shell at Curaçao.

The Exxon spokeswoman said that some weeks ago there had been "preliminary discussions" with Petroleos de Venezuela "regarding the possibility of the national Venezuelan oil company purchasing an interest in the Lago refinery located in

Both refineries were built to process Venezuelan crude oil. Units of Exxon and Royal Dutch-Shell were leading proponents of Venezuelan crude before the nationalization of Venezuela's oil industry in 1976.

The Exxon refinery is at Aruba and the Royal Dutch-Shell at Curaçao.

The Exxon spokeswoman said that some weeks ago there had been "preliminary discussions" with Petroleos de Venezuela "regarding the possibility of the national Venezuelan oil company purchasing an interest in the Lago refinery located in

Both refineries were built to process Venezuelan crude oil. Units of Exxon and Royal Dutch-Shell were leading proponents of Venezuelan crude before the nationalization of Venezuela's oil industry in 1976.

